

# LEYBOURNE SS PETER & PAUL C E PRIMARY ACADEMY



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Dear Parents,

Thank you for your support today, as we accept that we have had our first confirmed case of Covid-19 in school. We all send our best wishes to Mrs Newington for a speedy recovery, and hope that she both has a mild case of Covid-19 and also feels better soon.

As you would expect, we continue to monitor the situation closely and have again reviewed our risk assessment and policies and practices. We are following advice from the Department for Education and Public Health England and have taken all appropriate steps to ensure that we are doing all we can to minimise the spread of the virus.

As before, I must ask that you support us in this by **not sending your children to school if they are at all unwell**. We will also send children home if they are unwell at school. The main symptoms of Covid-19 (high temperature, new or continuous cough, change to senses of taste and/or smell) have not changed – but they do not always present at the earliest stages of infection. Flu like symptoms (such as a headache, feeling generally unwell, achiness) have been reported in a number of cases locally, with the “classic” Covid-19 symptoms following up to 2 or 3 days later. As a result, I really must ask that **all children who are unwell do remain at home**, please.

I have also asked the same of staff. Typically staff who feel “under the weather” have the mentality of soldiering on and coming into school. At this time, I am insisting that they do not do this. This does mean that we are likely to have increased staff absence, not because the staff necessarily have Covid-19, but because we are taking all appropriate precautions. Please do not panic if your child’s teacher or TA is not in school, and you have not been told about it, or asked to isolate your child! I will inform you if we have further confirmed cases and will advise you of the actions we need to take in each situation.

I know we are asking a lot of you at this time as we try to keep the school safe for everyone. We are asking you to trust us and our judgement, whilst you are understandably concerned about your family’s safety. I do completely understand how you feel; as you know, my own daughter is a pupil here as well.

I am also acutely aware that Christmas is approaching, and that families will wish to come together after a very challenging year. I will do all I can to ensure that we are not in a situation in which we need to self-isolate instead of meeting up at the end of this month. This year, possibly more than ever before, we need something joyous to look forward to. I am sure we can work together to achieve this for everyone.

Thank you again for your support and for the kind messages we have received throughout today – they are very much appreciated by us all.

Kind regards

Tina Holditch

**We promote the learning and development of all children to achieve their full potential  
in a caring, happy Christian environment**

