

To: All Parents / Carers

16th October 2020

Dear Parent/Carer,

Re: School Closure

As you are well aware, and despite all our measures to reduce infection, several staff and students of our school community have tested positive for COVID-19. For families directly affected by these cases, we know that self-isolation and disruption to your child's learning has caused you worries on many levels.

We also understand that, even if your child has not been asked to self-isolate, the growing concern about increasing cases in school is causing anxiety and disruption for everyone.

We have continued to work with Sandwell Public Health and I believe that if we do not respond quickly, we will be facing a much larger problem.

In light of this information and after seeking approval from our Local Governing Body Board, our Trust and the Local Authority, I have made the decision to close the school from 3.30pm on Friday 16th October and will re-open on Monday 2nd November 2020 (after the half term break).

I know this decision will cause concern and inconvenience for many families, however my priority right now is to reduce the risk of further infection and to protect the health and safety of all members of our school community. Closing the building for two weeks will create a 'circuit break' to prevent further infection and allow for an intensive deep clean of the entire school.

Please be assured that this decision has not been taken lightly; we have taken all family circumstances into consideration but strongly believe that this is the most effective yet least disruptive action we can take.

This is a week's closure (our planned Training Day on Friday 23rd October will be postponed) for which online learning will be provided. Following that we will have our planned half term break.

If your child develops symptoms and takes a Covid-19 test, please inform your Year Team so we can continue to monitor the situation.

If you have any concerns or worries please do not hesitate to contact your Year Team, in the first instance, via email.

Yours sincerely,



Helen Tanner
Senior Vice Principal