

**ABBEY ACADEMIES TRUST**  
**Executive Headteacher: Mrs S J Moore**

11<sup>th</sup> November 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

Please can I thank you all for being so supportive in these still very challenging COVID-19 times. I am sure that many of you will have heard that we had to send a class bubble home yesterday at Colsterworth due to a positive test result. This thankfully was only the second class bubble we have had to send home since we returned to school in September in our three schools, although we still completely understand that this is disruptive to all involved. I know you will appreciate that we only take this measure after seeking advice from Public Health England and the DfE. Our main priority is to keep our children and staff safe.

The Senior Leadership Team continue to meet regularly and update the 'live' COVID-19 risk assessment which is available to view. Following the class bubble closure yesterday, we reflected on our actions. If we need to send children home because we have been instructed to close a class bubble, we will notify you by ParentMail. Please can we ask that, particularly in COVID-19 times, you ensure that you download the ParentMail app if you are able to and have notifications turned on. Alternatively, please ensure that you have easy and regular access to ParentMail. We do understand that many parents/carers will have work commitments to arrange, but we do need to send children home as soon as possible. If a child develops symptoms at school during the day we will contact you by phone as usual and would ask that you arrange for them to be collected as soon as possible. Please ensure that we have up-to-date contact details at all times.

We are issuing an **out of hours mobile phone number** to you, so that in the event of your child receiving a positive test result, you can contact this emergency number without delay. This is in order for us to consider the need to close a class bubble and give us the maximum notice to make arrangements. If we are informed of a pupil's positive test result out of hours in good time, it may mean that we can inform a class bubble before the start of the school day which would help your arrangements at home. **This number is strictly only to be used to report a positive test result of a pupil at the school out of office hours.** Please do not send a text message to this emergency number, as we need to take key information from you. You will appreciate I do not want staff to be on call, so this number will be monitored by me. Please can I remind you that this is only for reporting your child's positive test result and not to discuss COVID-19 worries or symptoms or other school related issues. Emergency contact mobile number – **07591 528082**.

Senior Leaders also discussed some parental concerns that have been shared with us since half term. We understand that many of you are following social distancing rules when you drop off and collect your child/ren. We have staggered the start and end of our schools' days and we also have one-way systems in place. Despite continued reminders, many people are still concerned (especially those who are clinically vulnerable), that social distancing is not always happening at these times of the day. Thank you to those who have commented on how well we are keeping our children safely in their bubbles when they are in school. Following discussions with many staff and governors, and with full agreement from our two Co-Chairs of Trustees Mr John Kirkman and Mr Duncan Pickering, I would now like to urge all parents and carers (who can) to wear a face covering when dropping off and collecting your child/ren. This is to help ensure we all are doing everything we can to stop the spread of Coronavirus. It is now common place in our society and parental support for this in other primary schools locally, has been positive. We respect, for personal health reasons, that some parents/carers are unable to wear a face covering. I am sure as a school family, we will all respect this.

As ever, please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any worries or concerns. I hope that you are all safe and well in this current lockdown. Your children continue to wow us with their courage and sparkle.

Yours sincerely



Mrs Sarah Moore  
Executive Headteacher