



Townfield Primary School

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Wirral Borough Council

www.wirral.gov.uk

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Tel: 0151 666 5050

Dear Parents/Carers

In recent weeks, we have seen a rapid rise in Covid-19 cases in Wirral. Currently Wirral has rates of 121 per 100,000 population and is on an upward trajectory. The dominant strain of virus in the UK is called the Delta variant, evidence suggests that this variant spreads more easily than previous strains of the virus.

As a result, we are requesting that additional measures are brought into schools to slow down the spread of the virus. These controls may cause some disruption to end of year plans that normally take place. Activities such as transition, assemblies, proms and performances may need to be modified and alternative arrangements made. Educational visits may also be impacted by these additional measures. Schools will communicate with parents directly if any of their plans are impacted.

Face Coverings

From the 21st of June 2021, we continue to ask that parents and carers wear face coverings when dropping off and picking up children from school.

The purpose of wearing a face covering is to minimise the risk of transmitting the virus to other people if you are infectious but do not have symptoms. We know that up to 30% of people with COVID-19 do not experience symptoms, and everyone who has the virus will be infectious in the two days before their symptoms start, so wearing face coverings is one of a range of infection prevention and control measures that have been introduced in schools to protect pupils and staff.

Exemptions for wearing face coverings are still in place and further information about exemptions can be found [here](#).

Anyone communicating to someone who relies on lip reading will also be exempt from wearing a face covering.

Responsible Respectful Resilient

Testing

We would like to remind you that twice-weekly lateral flow testing at home is not recommended for young children. This is because the tests can be unpleasant and upsetting for this age group and as such, often give unreliable results. If you live in a household with younger children, adults within that household can test themselves as an indicator of whether there is a likelihood of COVID being transmitted among the family. If anyone tests positive, the whole household should isolate immediately, inform your child's school and book a PCR test.

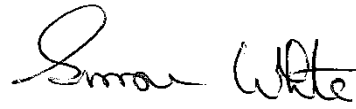
Please note that if you are in the position of needing to take time off work to look after a child who is self-isolating, you may be able to get some financial support. You can find more details and check your eligibility for this payment at: www.wirral.gov.uk/covidpayment. The payment scheme is being administered by Wirral Council and any queries can be directed to COVID19foodteam@wirral.gov.uk.

As always, we thank you for your continued support.

Yours faithfully



Julie Webster
Director of Public Health
Wirral Borough Council



Simone White
Director of Children's Services
Wirral Borough Council