



# Willerby Carr Lane Primary School

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Chair of Governors: Mr R Dickinson

10 September 2021

Dear Parents/ Carers

## Review of our 1<sup>st</sup> week back

We are really pleased to report that our first week back has gone very smoothly.

It has been great to see the children across the school return with such big smiles and be so keen to get back. It has been really uplifting for both staff and children to have school start to return to normal after 18 months with, for example, whole school assemblies, the re-introduction of clubs and the removal of bubbles. Our newest little friends in EYFS have also settled straight in. All the children have shown a great attitude to both their learning and in being so polite, kind and caring – they are a credit to you.

Public Health England have briefed us this week that covid cases in the East Riding are currently very high and they are expecting that this may rise as the country continues to 'unlock' and as children return to schools. At the same time, they report that vaccinations are reducing infections by 50% and hospitalisations by approximately 95%. Their Covid 19 outbreak management strategy is transitioning from trying to stop infection spread by locking down the country, to keeping the virus circulation to an 'acceptable level of infection' so as not to overwhelm hospitals or cause major disruption to schools and society. This is likely to be the case for the next few years.

Having caught covid myself over the summer holidays at an event, I can vouch for how unpleasant it can be, even in a mild form and even having been double vaccinated – a couple of weeks of flu and heavy cold followed by two further weeks of tiredness and lingering chest and head-cold symptoms.

It is important therefore, that as a school and a community we continue to take established precautions, including distancing, ventilation, hand-hygiene, enhanced cleaning regimes, self-isolation as required and testing. Whilst we can expect there to be ongoing cases in our community we all need to act diligently if we are to avoid unnecessary disruption to everyone's education this year. It is vital that children or parents who have symptoms of coronavirus do not come to school. If you have any of the main symptoms of COVID-19, even if they're mild:

- Get a PCR test (test that is sent to a lab) to check if you have COVID-19 as soon as possible.
- Stay at home and do not have visitors (self-isolate) until you get your test result – only leave your home to have a test. Check if people you live with need to self-isolate.

Whilst we hope that school will now be able to stay fully open, it is likely that individual children may have to self-isolate. It is also possible that there may be a wider outbreak of Covid at school. If that happens, we will liaise with Public Health England and take appropriate measures following their advice. In the eventuality that children need to self-isolate, then we will revert to providing online Google Classroom lessons. All our new starters, have now been set up on Google Classroom and logging on invitations have been emailed to all parents. A guide is attached explaining how you can register and log-in. All existing log-ins from last summer for all other pupils are still valid. Please check you can access your Google Account. It is important that everyone is prepared, has a working Google Classroom account for each child and is thereby ready to access remote education immediately if necessary.

As always, thank you for your incredible support and we look forward to a fantastic Autumn Term.

Yours faithfully

Mr Sean Smith  
Headteacher