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Headteacher

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Dear Parents/Carers

Lateral Flow Testing

The Department for Education has recently announced that it will start a programme of asymptomatic Covid-19 testing in primary schools, school-based nurseries and maintained nursery schools.

Along with the other safety measures we are taking, testing will allow us to take further measures to help keep the staff and children as safe as possible. Up to one in three people who have Covid-19 have the virus without symptoms (they are asymptomatic) so could be transmitting the virus unknowingly. Therefore the Department of Education has introduced the option of twice weekly testing for all Nursery School staff who are working on site so that members of staff who may be carrying the virus can self-isolate if required in order to control the spread of the virus.

Staff at our Nursery School are able to carry out a Lateral Flow Device (LFD) home test every Sunday and Wednesday evening. Any staff member who tests positive will be required to self-isolate and book a PCR (COVID) test. This means that Big Nursery or Little Nursery may have to close while the PCR (COVID) test result is obtained, and if the result is positive then they may have to close for a 10 day period.

If your child has had close contact with the staff member they will also have to self-isolate for 10 days.

Previous arrangements in place will still apply if a member of staff or child has any COVID symptoms.

I understand this is another complication in these already difficult times, but hope you will agree that identifying asymptomatic cases more quickly will help stop the spread of the virus.

Thank you for your understanding, as ever if you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sharon Kindred

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