

## **Penshurst Primary School**

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## **Dear Parent**

I write to bring you up to date with our plans for pupils returning to school next week.

Whilst high numbers of Covid cases are being recorded nationally, there has been no updated guidance provided to schools with regard to further measures nor how schools should operate when staff and pupils test positive, other than that provided to the population generally.

Nevertheless, throughout last term, we felt confident to make decisions based upon existing guidance and what we felt was the best for our pupils and school staff. This allowed us to remain open for all pupils with the minimum of disruption to learning and with relatively low staff and pupil absence.

Unless we receive further DfE or Public Health guidance in the meantime, our plan for the return of pupils to school will therefore be as follows;

- All pupils will return to school on Wednesday 5 January
- We urge parents to test their children on Tuesday evening before returning to school, where possible
- Staff will continue to be required to wear face coverings in communal areas in school. There is no expectation on children to do so
- Calendared events will be adjusted appropriately to limit opportunities for pupils and staff to mingle in large groups and we will keep you informed of these as the term proceeds
- If the incidence of cases in school reaches a level at which we are unable to function normally, we will introduce our contingency plan which may include some elements of home learning for pupils. If this is the case, we will communicate early and clearly with you at all times.

There is no doubt that the coming weeks are going to be difficult yet again for our entire school community. Throughout the pandemic, your support and trust has been invaluable and has enabled us to make decisions that we feel are best for us all.





















We do not take your trust for granted and are committed to keep you as updated as possible with regard to the operation of the school and the decisions we have made.

May I also take the opportunity to wish you and your family a safe, prosperous and very Happy New Year.

Yours faithfully

Mr V Groak Headteacher Mrs J Spencer Head of School