

Cumbria Academy for Autism Branthwaite Road Workington Cumbria CA14 4SS

01900 517632

26th September 2021

## Dear Parent/Carer

Thank you for your understanding and support with the Covid outbreak in school last week. The good news is that there has been no new cases of positive tests reported since Friday in the staff and pupils. Although not every child who has been a close contact has carried out a PCR test, hopefully we now have the infection spreading under control in school. Two children have tested positive so far and are isolating at home, we hope they get better soon.

It is our intention to be open again next week, although we will still have a lot of staff off. Currently 3 staff tested positive and are isolating and will return from Thursday if they are well. I am aware of an additional 4 staff who will still be ill from this Monday although they do not have a positive test result, hopefully they will recover soon. An additional staff member is shielding at home. I have also just had one staff member report that they have developed symptoms on Sunday and have gone for a PCR test today, so the result will be in tomorrow. Overall we will have at least 9 staff off.

If the staffing levels are too low to keep the children safe I may be forced to close classes and once again if any more positive cases are reported I will have to contact parents to collect children, please continue to be supportive of us if this happens. I will only know the full details on Monday for staffing and pupils once all children arrive as some families may choose again to keep children at home to avoid the disruption, missing key workers and potential outbreak infection. Until my staff recover there will be ongoing disruption.

Feel free to contact me for additional information or reassurance. If you can let your class teams and transport know your intentions for Monday it will help give us a clearer understanding for the day.

Thank you

Richard Aindow

**Head Teacher**Cumbria Academy for Autism

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