

Executive Headteacher Mrs C Adams Head of School Mr M Cunniffe northbrookpa.org

Dear Parents,

Happy New Year! It has been lovely to welcome the children back into school this week and we are so pleased with how quickly and sensibly they have settled back into routines and learning. They are a credit to us all.

Sadly, the current situation around Covid is quite worrying for us all at the moment and we want to reassure you all that as a school our priority is to protect children's health and wellbeing whilst balancing the need to maintain their education. We will do everything we can to keep all of our classes in school and keep school open, but we can only do that if everyone helps us to manage our risks. We are asking our staff and children not to come into school if they have any symptoms of Covid until they are sure they do not have the virus in order to help reduce our risks, please help us with this by not sending in any child who is unwell and keeping them at home until they are fit to return.

We closely follow the guidance set by the government, Department for Education (DFE) and Public Health England (PHE). To help prevent the spread of Covid-19, we have a number of measures in school.

We have increased ventilation throughout school. We ensure that some windows and doors in all areas are open and with the help of CO2 monitors we keep our levels in the appropriate safe range. Monitors are checked frequently and ventilation is increased where necessary. This can mean that classrooms are cooler than usual and with the cold weather over the next few weeks this can be less comfortable. You might want to consider extra layers for your children, maybe an additional t shirt under their polo shirt and ensure they have their sweatshirt and a coat each day.

Staff are all wearing face coverings in all communal areas, and are doing LFD tests regularly.

We will continue to monitor the situation on a daily basis and may make changes in order to increase safety levels if we feel this is needed. For example, we may move to not having whole school assemblies and having lunches in year group bubbles again if we feel levels in school are rising too high. There is a balance for us to manage here which includes keeping the children safe but also for their mental health and wellbeing trying to keep things as normal as we can and for that reason we will only move to the higher levels if we feel there is a higher risk of spread of infection in the school.

The guidance for isolation periods and PCR tests is changing on a regular basis so if you are at all unsure about how to respond to a particular situation for your child please contact the school office and we will offer you advice on how to best support your child.

Yours sincerely,

M Cunniffe

C Adams

Mark Cunniffe - Head of School

Christine Adams – Executive Headteacher



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