

13 November 2020

Dear Parent/ Carer

First of all, my thanks for supporting your child's attendance at school and their continued learning during these exceptionally difficult times.

Staffordshire continues to see high levels of Covid cases, primarily driven by household transmission. There has also been an increase of hospital admissions across the county.

The Police Force have received 483 reports of Covid breaches in the last week (4 – 11 November) with the majority of these being house parties and gatherings (mixing of households). The peak was Saturday 7 November with 139 incidents.

Consequently, Police Officers are urging us all to comply with the revised measures to ensure the safety and well-being of our friends and family, and also to ensure that schools can continue to operate.

We too have seen an exponential rise in cases across all our settings due to household transmission, which has resulted in a number of pupil bubbles being closed to prevent any further spread of the infection.

I want to reassure you that we continue to do everything we can to keep everyone as safe as possible in each of our settings. Learning is continuing both in our schools and remotely. Since the beginning of term, pupil attendance across the trust is 96% (not accounting for Covid related absence), which is above the national average and testament to the faith parents and carers have in our safety arrangements.

That being said, should we reach a point at any of our settings where staffing levels reach a critical point where we can no longer maintain the safety of everyone on site, then we may have to take additional temporary measures. These may include either a full or partial closure of a particular setting, or a reduced teaching timetable. Should there be a need to introduce any such measures, you will of course be given appropriate notice.

I am certain that if we all work together and abide by the national restrictions in place, we can avoid the need for any such additional measures.

Yours sincerely

Jon Lovatt

Great Learning Opportunities for all!