



Somerford Primary School

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4th November 2021

Dear Parents

Thank you for continuing to do all you can to support us in keeping our school community as safe as we can as we continue through this pandemic.

Despite the best efforts of everyone in managing outbreaks, South West local authority infection rates are high. Cases remain high in our communities, not only in school aged children but increasingly in adults too.

Public Health Dorset, BCP Council and Dorset Council have jointly agreed additional advice and action for schools so we can implement further response measures as necessary.

They recommend schools use these precautionary measures for 14 days after schools return from half term to limit the impact of social mixing during the holiday. This will help to minimise the spread of infection and help keep schools open.

The impact of the measures will be reviewed and further advice will be provided to schools on any action to take after the 14 day period.

Additional measures Somerford Primary School are taking

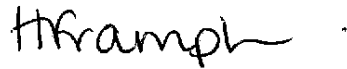
As you are aware, we already have a high number of measures in place and we will be keeping these for the two weeks. In addition we will also be:

- a. Encouraging all staff to receive their booster jab if eligible
- b. Encouraging parents to test your child using a Lateral Flow Device on a Monday morning before your child comes to school. **This is not compulsory and we will not be collecting results.**
- c. Being extra vigilant to COVID symptoms and insisting children have a PCR test before returning to school if they display a high temperature or a new continuous cough or have a change or loss of their taste or smell. Colds/non COVID symptoms are circulating but in the first instance symptoms will be treated as possible COVID
- d. We currently have one assembly a week together in the hall but for these 2 weeks we will move it to Zoom. We will also have staff meetings by Zoom.

I would also like to ask for your continued support in keeping us all safe when your child is out of school. You have all been so patient with us and supportive and we have dealt with this challenging situation as the school family we are. Please continue to take precautions outside of school to limit the chances of COVID being brought in to school.

Further guidance on COVID-19 can be found at <https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus>.

Best wishes

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "H Frampton". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Helen Frampton

Headteacher