



# Longmeadow Primary School

Headteacher: Mrs Emily Howley

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18<sup>th</sup> June 2020

## Re: Yellow Class Bubble

Dear Parents and Carers,

I am writing to you with some important information in relation to the Yellow Class Bubble, which is likely to impact upon its operation over the next fortnight.

A child from the Yellow Class has displayed one of the COVID symptoms – mainly a temperature. They were immediately isolated from the other children in a separate area of the school, designed for this purpose.

I can confirm in line with our risk assessments, as a precaution, the bubble cannot continue whilst we await the outcome of testing. We are also seeking the the advice of an officer of Hertfordshire County Council's Public Health Team. All pupils and staff from this bubble have been sent home to self-isolate as a precaution while we await the outcome of the test. All families should now isolate for 14 days as a precautionary measure while we await the outcome of testing. Should the result of the test come back positive, track and trace would be implemented, and I would immediately seek the advice of the Public Health Team again. Should the test be negative, the bubble can reopen again as normal.

As all staff in the bubble are required to self-isolate, staffing shortages mean that I will be unable to open the bubble next week from Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> June, as all other staff remain attached to their own bubbles and may not mix or cover. This is also necessary to prevent any issues relating to cross contamination. Therefore no children from Yellow class should currently attend school. We will let you know when the bubble will be operational again.

I apologise for the inconvenience that this will cause you; however, I know that you will appreciate that this is to keep you and your families safe. Keeping bubbles safe for your families and our staff's families is our number one priority at this time.

It is important that we all remain vigilant to potential COVID-like symptoms and take immediate action when they occur. COVID-like symptoms (according to the most recent advice on NHS websites) include:

- **a high temperature** – this means you feel hot to touch on your chest or back (you do not need to measure your temperature); and or
- **a new, continuous cough** – this means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours (if you usually have a cough, it may be worse than usual); and or
- **a loss or change to your sense of smell or taste** – this means you've noticed you cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal.

Please inform us immediately if your child or anyone in the household develops one or more of the symptoms listed above.

However, please do not worry unnecessarily – I reiterate, the current situation is that a pupil has a temperature. Children get temperatures for many different reasons. There is no positive COVID results currently. These are precautionary measures to protect the integrity and safety of the bubble and the advice of HCC Public Health has been followed to the letter. If you remain concerned please contact [head@longmeadow.herts.sch.uk](mailto:head@longmeadow.herts.sch.uk) to discuss this further.

Mrs Alexander and I will keep you informed of any changes in relation to the operation of Yellow Class bubble as soon as we are aware of them.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Emily Howley  
**Headteacher**