



Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> November 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

Following confirmation of another case late yesterday afternoon, we have had a high number of emails and phone calls to respond to. Just to clarify, due to confidentiality, I cannot give exact details of specific cases but I can confirm the child presented no symptoms in school on Monday. A test was taken Monday evening and the result confirmed yesterday afternoon. The positive case can be traced back to the weekend.

Please can I take the opportunity to thank all parents/carers who are following the additional guidance I issued this week in relation to only one person dropping off / collecting children and the wearing of face masks on the school site.

I would also like to thank parents, carers and school staff for adapting so well when a bubble has to close. Closing any class bubble is a decision made by public health England, not by the school. No one is more upset than myself and my school staff when we have to send children home to self-isolate. I really do appreciate how disruptive this can be for both your family and work life as well as your child's education. It is having a similar impact on our school staff and their families who also have to self-isolate.

Furthermore, closing a bubble also has an impact in school. A huge amount of work behind the scenes is required to provide home learning provision so quickly. I am really proud of how our staff have adapted to online teaching and we have received some lovely feedback from parents/carers which is very much appreciated. However, this really needs to be a last resort and children are much better learning in a classroom environment.

As we move into lockdown tomorrow I would like to remind all parents of the importance of following the rules published by the government. We try really hard to keep our children safe whilst in school and have robust procedures in place- including frequent hand washing and hourly cleaning routines on top of ensuring children catch up on 6 months of lost education in school.





## BILTON GRANGE PRIMARY SCHOOL

BILTON LANE

HARROGATE

HG1 3BA

Tel: 01423 502375

Email: [biltongrange@ycatschools.co.uk](mailto:biltongrange@ycatschools.co.uk)

Website: [www.biltongrangeharrogate.co.uk](http://www.biltongrangeharrogate.co.uk)

Headteacher: Mr R. J. Street

Whilst evidence shows that contracting and transmitting COVID is low in primary aged children, this virus can clearly be caught at any time or place. There will be cases where despite all of our efforts, at home and school, a child or staff member will test positive and my first thought will always be to ensure their safety and well-being. As a result, difficult decisions will inevitably need to be made to protect children and staff in school.

Moving into a national lockdown and the rising number of cases we are seeing locally, please can I reinforce that behaviour and action outside of school which is not in line with rules can jeopardise all of the hard work, both ourselves and families at home, are putting in place to ensure the safety of all staff and children. It could lead to closing one or more bubble, affecting potentially hundreds of families.

By working together, we can ensure our fantastic school remains open for all children, all of the time.

Yours sincerely,

Richard Street

Headteacher



Yorkshire Collaborative Academy Trust, a charitable company limited by guarantee, registered in England and Wales with company number 9668526. Registered Office: Bilton Grange Primary School, Bilton Lane, Harrogate, North Yorkshire, HG1 3BA.