



Thornhill Academy

Enriching Lives, Inspiring Ambitions

Dear parent/carer,

At the current time recorded cases of COVID-19 in Sunderland continue to be high and are increasing. Since the start of the new academic year the rate of cases in the school aged population has risen to very high levels.

It remains a priority to maximise the number of children and young people in face-to-face education and minimise any disruption but in response to this ongoing and worrying situation it is important to take proactive steps to reduce the spread of infection. By doing so will help to bring cases down, minimise the risk of further disruption to education and protect critical health and social care services.

In coming weeks, it may be necessary to consider additional measures in school to ensure that face to face education can continue. We will inform you of these measures as and when they become appropriate.

Please could I ask that your child completes a Lateral Flow Test before their return to school on Tuesday? This will help to minimise the risk of transmission within our school community. Should you not have any of these at home, packs of tests can be collected from school, between the hours of 8.30am and 3.30pm, from main reception, on Monday.

We also advise the following:

- **Twice weekly LFD testing for all pupils** – regular testing will help to reduce transmission by identifying those who are infectious but do not have any symptoms of COVID-19.
- **Any pupils with symptoms of Covid-19, however mild, should stay at home and take a PCR test.**
- **Anyone who is unwell should stay at home, as advised in the winter plan.**

Thank you for your support with this. Maintaining face to face education is our number one priority and together we can support each other with this

If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to call school for advice

Kind regards,

Sue Hamilton

Head Teacher