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8th December 2020,

Dear Parents,

First and foremost, I hope this finds you and your families well. We understand that many of you are anxious about the rising numbers of positive cases in the area, particularly with Christmas just around the corner. As a school, we are expecting to be fully open until the end of term. This is in line with the national and local government expectations. However, please be assured where the local public health and safety is compromised, we will have no choice other than to move to blended learning.

Please find attached an email from Will McLean, Chief Officer Children & Young People Monmouthshire outlining self-isolation requirements for a variety of scenarios.

1. If you have a positive case in your family the rest of the household should self-isolate for fourteen days
2. If anyone in the household has symptoms they should get a test and everyone in the household should isolate until the result is known.
3. Follow advice from Track, Trace & Protect

You will know that, until last week, we were fortunate enough not to have had to isolate any groups of learners due to a positive COVID-19 test for a pupil or staff member at the school. As soon as we have notification of a positive case, we follow the advice from Monmouthshire County Council Environmental Health Officers dedicated to the Covid-19 response. Letters are issued to the families of learners who need to isolate with details of the isolation period. All other families receive a letter informing them of a case in school but that it is safe for their child to come to school. We understand that isolating young children can be challenging, particularly for working parents. Self-isolation for children in reality means they need to isolate themselves from the community as a whole, not just from school. No visits to the park or socialising with friends and family can be difficult for children to understand. I would like to also take this opportunity to remind everyone that pupils in secondary school who are self-isolating should not come to school to drop off or pick up siblings. Please remember to inform us immediately (day/night) if your child has a positive test result. You can do this through the school email, telephone or ParentMail app.

I would like to thank you all for your kind words, messages of support and appreciation in what has been a very challenging year. Our aim has always been to

keep school as normal as possible for our learners and with the hard work of the whole school community we have achieved this.

I hope that your family stays safe and well during these troubling times.

Cofion Cynnes

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "S. Hamer". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looped initial 'S'.

Mrs S. Hamer
Headteacher