



Ebrington Primary & Nursery School

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Principal: Mr B F Guthrie, BA Hons ED PQH

1 November 2020

Dear Parent/ Guardian/ Pupils

We look forward to welcoming back all our pupils and staff tomorrow, Monday 2 November. All of us at Ebrington recognise the value of face to face teaching and the advantages it has over online learning.

During the first half of the term, we did all we could to keep all in our school community safe from Covid 19. With a large 'population' associated with school, this was indeed a challenge but, having carried out the risk assessments with the Public Health Agency when positive cases were identified, we are confident that no cases were as a result of transmission within school. In total, we had to have 4 'bubble' closures due to either a pupil or staff member having a positive result, and had, at one point, 120 pupils and 13 staff absent due to self-isolation. It is possible that we may have further bubble closures, and that is why we are asking our school community to do all they can to help us keep Ebrington PS & NU 'Covid-Free'. We would ask you to please consider what pupils do and where they go outside school in order to continue to help reduce the community transmission of COVID-19 within our area.

If you have concerns about your child's health, please do not send them to school until you are certain that they are not Covid-19 positive; following a negative test result they **MUST** wait 48 hours before they return to school. If identified as a close contact of a positive case, they must self-isolate for 14 days, even if they have a test which comes back with a negative result.

We will continue to manage all the routines and procedures that were put in place at the end of August, and shared via our RESTART document. In such, drop off and pick up will remain as they were prior to early half term closure. **The one additional measure I would ask parents for further support on would be the wearing of masks at drop off and pick up time, if you are coming on to the school site with your child.** With large numbers congregating, especially at home time, social distancing can be challenging and the wearing of masks would help this further. This means that we would not have to consider staggered drop off and pick up times, which would be challenging for families to manage.

I understand these are very challenging times and as we are returning to school in the lead up to Christmas, classes will not be engaging in the traditional routines of coming together to practise for Christmas concerts, carol services, etc. but please be assured that all the staff in school will continue to work as diligently as they have been to keep things as normal as possible for all our pupils. I thank you for your continued support.

Yours sincerely,

Mr B Guthrie