



The Orchard Primary School  
Nurture Learn Grow

4<sup>th</sup> February 2022

Dear Parents and carers

It is clear that infection rates are falling very slowly in Hounslow and so we must continue to be very careful and conscientious in relation to the mitigation measures in place. Although some measures have been relaxed nationally, we continue to have positive cases in school and so must have the additional measures and restrictions in place to reduce the risk of greater transmission.

At all times...

- Remember to **wear a mask / face covering** when you come onto the site .
- We ask you to **arrive with only 1 parent / adult** to bring or collect the children.
- It is important that you **follow the one-way system** we have in place for those of you who come from Orchard Road.
- Follow the request not to cross the playground if you come from Cromwell Road - please say goodbye to your children at the barriers.
- It is also very important to **remember social distancing** at all times.
- When you have dropped off or collected your children please **leave the site straight away** - do not wait in the playground to watch the children or chat with other parents.
- Please remember that if your children develop any of the Covid-19 symptoms you should arrange for them to be tested.
- If the test result is positive they should remain at home for 10 days. The symptoms to particularly look out for are:
  - **a high temperature,**
  - **a new continuous cough,**
  - **loss of sense of taste or smell**

We are aware that at this time of year, the children also suffer from coughs and colds but please arrange a Covid-19 test if you feel unsure. It has been widely reported that the Omicron strain also manifests as cold symptoms so it is important for your child to at least have a lateral flow test. Remember that even a faint line means the result is positive so your child should not come to school.

If your child is unwell and you are awaiting a PCR test result, please keep her or him at home until you have confirmation of a negative result. This gives them time to recover if they are unwell and also protects the rest of the school community if their test result is positive.

Please remember that if staff are ill, some children may not be able to come to school so please support us by keeping your children at home if they are unwell and ensuring that they are tested for Covid-19.

Thank you to all parents who are ensuring their children arrive at school punctually every day. Please make sure your child arrives at school in time **to be in class by:**

- 8.55am if they are in Years 3-6 and
- 9.00am if they are in Years 1 or 2.
- **Reception children should be in class by 9.10am.**

**Remember** - It is **not acceptable to be late for school every day**. The gates will open at 8.45am and the children should go straight to class. Please **do not send them in earlier** than 8.45am as we have a brief staff meeting until this time or the teachers are setting up the classrooms so they are not able to supervise children who arrive too early.

#### **Other reminders:**

- Please **do not allow your child to ride bikes or scooters anywhere on the school site** at the beginning or end of the day.
- Please **do not allow your child to play on the play structures** in the playground.
- Please **do not allow your child to play on the Adobe** at the end of the field.
- 

Thank you for your support and continued co-operation with these important arrangements. We are definitely living through some unprecedented times and all having to cope with demands and changes we would never have imagined. The ongoing vigilance of everyone in our school community will help to reduce the risk of transmission to staff, pupils and parents.

Christine Haslam  
Headteacher