

**Head Teacher:**

Mr J. Church

**School Business Manager:**

Mrs L. Hodgson

**Telephone/Fax:** 01482 657208**Email:** office@kirkella.eriding.net**Website:**[www.kirkellaprimarieschool.org.uk](http://www.kirkellaprimarieschool.org.uk)

St. Andrew's C.P. School



Kirk Ella

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West Ella Road

Kirk Ella

East Yorkshire

HU10 7QL

Dear Parent/Carers,

As you can imagine this is a difficult time for the school with two year groups isolating at present. We want to reassure you that we are doing all we can to keep your children safe and we constantly review our procedures to make sure they are the best we have at that given time.

This still includes:

- All staff wear masks outside of the classroom.
- An enhanced cleaning regime throughout the day.
- Socially distanced teaching where possible.
- Children sent home as soon as we are aware of symptoms and parents asked to test children.
- Bubbles set up for each year group to minimise contact.
- Changes to start and end times to ensure minimal contact between year groups.
- Staff distanced from each other. (e.g. no staff sitting in staff rooms and limiting the amount of staff in given rooms)
- All classrooms having cleaning products.
- Hand sanitiser in all classrooms and across the school. The children are still encouraged to wash hands throughout the day.

The school procedures are on the website and have been checked by the local authority Health and Safety officer.

I am very sympathetic to the parents who need to look after isolated children. I am aware with my own isolation how difficult it is, and I am sure it is even harder with a child having to arrange supervision. I am waiting for the day I may need to do the same with my own children. If there are difficulties dropping off, please contact the school if you have exhausted any other childcare.

As a school, we can only react to the information we have at the time. If we know a child has symptoms the parents/carers are contacted immediately. If you know your child has symptoms, please do not try and bring your child in. We have had some children brought in when parents know their child has a temperature.

Please ensure that you tell the school if you are having your child tested as we have a list of those children we are monitoring. Please do not bring the child to school until you have informed us of the result, and we have given the ok. We have protocols and we are trying to follow these as strictly as possible.

It is important that everyone follows these guidelines. We have vulnerable staff and children in the school, and we all have a duty to do our best to protect ourselves and others.

We are unfortunate to have three cases so soon into the term. As the local Headteachers meet up regularly online, we know the procedures we have in place are very similar. If other schools have a positive case, they will need to isolate bubbles in the same way. As a large school, we are more likely to be affected.

We are in year bubbles at present as we felt it was the best way to ensure safety while giving some freedom for sharing resources and staff within the year group. This is the same as all the local schools. We will be reviewing this and seeing what we can do which may mean restricting year groups further.



Please be assured we are doing all we can, and we are not taking our responsibility lightly.

Let's do all we can and support one another,

Keep Safe,

Mr Church