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Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> December 2021

## Year 4 Covid Update

### For Parents/Carers of Classes 13 & 14 at Ribbon Academy

Dear Parent/Carer,

There are several confirmed cases of COVID-19 within Year 4. Therefore, I have taken the decision to close Year 4 in-school provision from this morning until 3.30pm on Friday 17<sup>th</sup> December (which covers the incubation period). Please understand that the decision to close Year 4 has not been taken lightly. The rapid rise in Covid infection over the past few days has been significant. Keeping the year group open, would only perpetuate the problem. This is not a risk I am prepared to take with the children in Year 4 and 500 other children in school.

As you can imagine, this is a rapidly developing situation. Guidance changes from day to day which makes sharing advice, at this moment, very difficult (and very frustrating) for schools to interpret.

From interpreting current guidance and speaking to officials at PHE, I would advise:

- \* As all children in Year 4 are classed as close contacts of those infected with Covid-19, PCR tests (for all remaining children) should be booked as some children (who are infected) are asymptomatic.
- \* Even if the PCR returns a negative result, symptoms could develop over the next ten days therefore, daily LFTs are also advisable.

I am devastated that this has happened so close to the Christmas break but, we are doing everything possible to ensure that high-quality provision is in place for your child to continue learning.

### What to do if your child develops symptoms of COVID 19

If your child develops symptoms of COVID-19, you should arrange a PCR test. This can be arranged via: <https://www.nhs.uk/ask-for-a-coronavirus-test> or by calling 119.

### Symptoms of COVID 19

The most common symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19) are recent onset of:

- \* New continuous cough and/or
- \* High temperature and/or
- \* A loss of, or change in, normal sense of taste or smell (anosmia)

For most people, coronavirus (COVID-19) will be a mild illness.

Yours sincerely,  
Mrs A Sheridan (Headteacher)