



**The Oaks Community Primary School**  
Rochester Drive  
Ellesmere Port  
Cheshire  
CH65 9EX  
Tel: 0151 338 2111  
Fax: 0151 357 4156  
E-mail: admin@theoaks.cheshire.sch.uk

Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> January 2021

Dear parents/ carers

I hope you are keeping well in these challenging times. The infection rate in our area has risen significantly since the Christmas break and stands at **1053 cases per 100,000** as at 8<sup>th</sup> January 2021. It has never been more important to stay at home.

If you are accessing a place in school for your child/ children, please consider if this is needed. The government guidance states:

**Parents and carers should keep their children at home if they can.**

### **Mixing with other people**

As you will all know, we are not permitted to mix with other people in our homes. The government has made provision for some people to form a bubble. Not all people are entitled to form a bubble therefore I wanted to outline the rules regarding bubbles in this letter, to support you in understanding what is and is not allowed by law.

### **Support bubbles**

Not everybody can form a support bubble. You can form a support bubble with another household of any size if:

- you live by yourself – even if carers visit you to provide support
- you are the only adult in your household who does not need continuous care as a result of a disability
- your household includes a child who is under the age of one or was under that age on 2 December 2020
- your household includes a child with a disability who requires continuous care and is under the age of 5, or was under that age on 2 December 2020
- you are aged 16 or 17 living with others of the same age and without any adults
- you are a single adult living with one or more children who are under the age of 18 or were under that age on 12 June 2020

You should not form a support bubble with a household that is part of another support bubble.

## **Childcare bubbles**

You might be able to form a childcare bubble to provide or receive childcare from one other household if you live with someone under the age of 14.

However, you must not meet socially with your childcare bubble, and must avoid seeing members of your childcare and support bubbles at the same time.

## **Home learning**

We thank each and every one of you who have supported your child to access their home learning on a daily basis. We know that this has been challenging in some cases. It is vitally important that children do access home learning as we are continuing to move forward with the statutory curriculums. This means that when we do return to school, anyone who has not regularly accessed the learning set, will have missed a significant chunk of learning.

I would also like to appeal to parents of children who are due to move on to high school in September. Teachers will have to pass on information to the high school for each child which details how secure they are against KS2 expectations. This supports the high school to group children accordingly. Please support us to pass on the correct information by ensuring your child is accessing the home learning set.

Teachers are available to provide you with support over the telephone as they are working from home. We would rather discuss a problem and come up with a solution with you as quickly as possible. Thanks to feedback from parents and the teaching assistants who are supporting in school, we are working on smoothing out issues that have arisen since last week. This includes:

- teachers adding in text boxes for all questions so that children do not have to
- ensuring that all text is large enough to read
- adding word mats so that children can find exciting words to add to their writing or check a spelling
- reducing the number of slides each day

Please be aware that each family will receive at least one phone call per week to check if you are all well and to see if we can support you in any way. Most calls will be from an unknown number.

Many thanks for your continued support.

Yours faithfully

Louise Roberts

Headteacher