



# Beeston Primary School

Town Street, Leeds, LS11 8PN



“Promoting a love of learning”

Monday 9<sup>th</sup> November 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

We have now entered into another national lockdown as the COVID-19 pandemic continues to spread across the country. You could all be forgiven for being a little 'fed up' of these regular updates and I am always sorry to bombard you, through our text messaging service, especially in an evening and over the weekend as we try to strike a balance between information overload and keeping you fully up-to-date with ever-changing guidance in this ongoing complex situation. As ever, thank you for your patience and understanding.

I am aware that some families are worried about the amount of COVID-19 cases in our school – especially with the amount of school texts we have all had on Friday and over the weekend. Having spoken to Leeds City Council today to compare the amount of cases at Beeston Primary School with the rest of Leeds schools; I was informed that this amount is typical with schools across Leeds and indeed the country. Some schools have even had to close due to the lack of staffing (from self-isolating) or an increased amount of positive COVID-19 cases. We are NOT at this stage yet.

Some parents have spoken to me recently about the school's risk assessment. Therefore, I would like to address their queries in today's letter.

Firstly, please try not to worry. School is following Leeds City Council's Risk Assessment which is updated regularly by the Health and Safety Team. I shall be adding the most recent Risk Assessment to our school website today. This will answer many of your concerns and will help to alleviate any worries regarding your children's safety at school.

One change we have been able to put in place, this half term is the move from year group bubbles to class bubbles for Years One to Six. This will help minimise the disruption to school and to families. We will now explore how to safely move Foundation Stage into class bubbles, which will be a complicated process as these children continuously access the outdoors to support their learning. Much of this involves using shared equipment and resources. We will keep you informed of how we manage to do this.

When we have a confirmed case of COVID-19 in school, we first ring Public Health England who advise us what to do. We then follow their instructions carefully to ensure that all staff and pupils are safe. We also notify Leeds City Council of any new cases. If they have concerns to the amount of cases in any school then they would work with Public Health England to put in additional control measures. I can assure you Leeds City Council are NOT concerned with the amount of positive COVID-19 cases we currently have in school.

Headteacher Mr. N. Edensor

Tel. No: 0113 2716978

Email: [mainoffice@beestonprimary.org](mailto:mainoffice@beestonprimary.org)

[www.beestonprimaryschool.co.uk](http://www.beestonprimaryschool.co.uk)

Part of the Leodis Schools Alliance



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Can I remind all parents that if your child is self-isolating, there is a statutory requirement for them to continue their learning at home. You will receive a call from your child's class teacher in the first instance, if you are self-isolating, in order to put our home learning plans in place.

We once again appreciate that there will be a wide variety of views amongst our school community about the nature, content and timings of this new national lockdown and the government guidance for schools.

Please remember that, as a state-maintained school, we are duty bound to follow the government's guidance and put in place all the control measures in the school's risk assessment ensuring that school is a safe place for all. However, we would respectfully request that any issues you might have about this guidance would be better directed at elected officials rather than the school's leadership team and staff, whose duty it is to apply the guidance received.

As always, please send proof of any positive COVID-19 test results to the following email address [positivecovid@beestonprimary.org](mailto:positivecovid@beestonprimary.org), as soon as you receive them, even if this is at a weekend, so that we can take appropriate action. This email address is for COVID -19 positive cases only. If you want to contact school about any other issues, or inform us of a negative test, then please use our office email address on our school website.

Finally, I would like to thank my brilliant team, who are having to work evenings and weekends when a positive case is confirmed, in order to try and minimise any additional disruptions to our families. We continue to maintain a happy, purposeful environment in school, despite the significant capacity issues that we face. We will continue to work hard through the lockdown period because we all believe in the huge benefits of pupils being in school.

I would also like to thank all those families who have sent in messages of support during these challenging times. Your positive comments and feedback have been appreciated.

This has, once again highlighted what a brilliant community we have at Beeston Primary School.

Best wishes,

Mr Edensor  
(Headteacher)

Headteacher Mr. N. Edensor

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