

19th March, 2021

Dear Parents/Carers,

I write further to the recent positive cases of Covid-19 at our school and the self-isolation of close contact pupils.

I have spoken to the Local Authority and to Public Health England who have confirmed that Redditch has the **highest** infection rate in Worcestershire, specifically the Arrow Valley and Ipsley areas. As a result we are seeing several positive cases show up through our in-school testing, which reflects the infection rates in the community. Can I therefore urge you as parents and families, to follow the strict guidance we have received from the Government in relation to the lockdown rules. If your child is self-isolating, they must **stay at home and not go to any other public places** until the end date of their isolation.

Can I also advise you against the use of public transport to and from school, as this also carries a high risk of transmission of the virus.

As always, I can reassure you that we are doing everything possible to ensure your child is safe at school and with the introduction of the Lateral Flow Tests both at school and at home, we are also picking up cases of asymptomatic pupils (pupils without symptoms), that would normally be attending classes and therefore spreading the virus.

Many thanks for your co-operation, it has certainly been a long year but hopefully if we abide by the guidelines for a little longer, we will see the eventual return to 'normality'.

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact us on 01527 526800 or via email office@arrowvaleacademy.co.uk

Yours sincerely



Ian Mellor
Principal