



18<sup>th</sup> November 2020

Dear Parents/Carers

## COVID-19 – Whole School closure

As you will be aware Two Rivers High School has been following national guidelines on providing protective 'bubbles' to ensure we keep our students as safe as possible. These class and year group bubbles are designed to limit the contact in school between staff and children. In the event of staff absence for any reason staff cannot currently move around into other bubbles to provide cover.

In light of the Covid-19 pandemic there are many reasons why staff may not be able to come into work. These include:

- A member of Staff being ill or for some other reason not related to Covid-19
- A member of staff displaying symptoms therefore self-isolating until receiving the result of their test.
- A member of staff having to self-isolate if a member of their immediate family is showing symptoms or has tested positive for Covid-19.
- A member of staff has been contacted via NHS track or trace to say they need to self-isolate.

If a bubble is short staffed then it cannot be covered by other staff as it would have been before. In this case a bubble may have to close at short notice.

There are 2 reasons why a bubble would close:

- Low staffing levels due to the reasons stated above.
- The DFE says the bubble has to close due to a positive test/s within the bubble.

We have now had one positive case confirmed in school for which we have closed the middle school bubble. We also have a large number of staff across the school who are isolating or unable to attend school. This has meant that we cannot support every class without staff crossing bubbles which is ill-advised especially with a positive case. To deep clean the school and to act as a circuit breaker, ensuring we are all well on return, **we are having to make the difficult decision to close school to all students until Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> November.** We will keep in touch via class dojo and email during this time and inform you if anything changes in the meantime.

I would like to thank you all for your support as this week has seen the first closure our school has had to endure since opening in September. There are a large amount of positive tests in the local community therefore we need to keep alert to help stop this having an impact on our school in the future. I hope that we can all return to normal soon.

Yours sincerely

G Brindley  
Headteacher

A member of Endeavour MAT

