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Dear parents,

Sunday 11th October 2020

Like many of you, I am horrified that some adults, for whatever reason, are not following guidelines set out by the Government. Some guidance, I acknowledge is confusing. However, guidance such as isolating if you have COVID19 symptoms and get a test, is easy to understand.

On Friday, text messages containing links to information on our school website were sent to everyone in our school community. I would like to point out the following messages that must be taken seriously.

Parents/Adults with symptoms **should not** drop off and collect children at our school.

Children of parents who have symptoms, even if the children are not displaying symptoms, should isolate in their homes.

Parents with symptoms should isolate with their household.

We have received numerous phone calls and e-mails from understandably anxious parents as a result of one parent not following the advice above, detailing how they feel about the incident. Like you, I was extremely worried over the possible consequences as a result of one parent not following the advice. I was extremely worried about the rest of the children in the Bubbles—some of whom are vulnerable and live with vulnerable parents. I was extremely worried about my staff in school—some of whom are vulnerable but continue to come to work each day but isolate every weekend to ensure they do not pass anything on to your children. Staff here are really doing all they can to keep your children safe.

The impact of one parents' actions has caused a huge level of anxiety across our School Community. This could have been avoided by following the guidelines.

I would like to reassure parents of the following advice which has been confirmed by a Public Health Advanced practitioner.

“The Bubbles of the children who attended school when their mother was awaiting her test results do not need to self-isolate, unless the children, who should have been isolating develop symptoms”.

I had confirmation that the children who should have been isolating **do not** have any symptoms. If any child across our school, develops symptoms either during the school day or at home, the members of their Bubble will be notified and asked to self-isolate. We expect parents to tell us if their child has developed symptoms at home—we need to work together to do this.

I was very proud at the beginning of the year to be able to set up a system where by social distancing should not be an issue for us at Edmondsley, so the decision was made to not ask parents to wear face coverings on our school grounds. For the children, I felt it was immensely important for them to be greeted by their class teacher with a smile—especially on their return in September. Now, understanding the real worries of the people who surround me, staff and parents, I have taken the

decision to ask all parents to wear a face covering whilst on our school grounds. Staff will now also be wearing face coverings when parents are present to drop off and collect their children.

I hope these additional measures will give my staff and parents some further protection, which I feel is now needed.

Best wishes

Mrs A Rees
Head Teacher