



15th September 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

Thank you everyone !

As we started week three in school, the changes made from Monday to school procedures have eased congestion at Broadway, both for drop off and pick up for Reception children.

Our existing and new Nursery have joined us over the past two days, it's been wonderful to welcome them back into our revamped Nursery building.

Risk Assessment:

At Gig Mill Primary School we have completed a detailed risk assessment and formulated our plans for reopening by implementing the Public Health England 'system of controls' which will help reduce the risk of transmission. We have now added a **COVID19 tab to the website**, so that it's easy for you to locate relevant information, including the detailed information in the return to school letter and risk assessment. There is a link to guidance on "What to do if your child is displaying symptoms" (a leaflet from Dudley Local Authority).

Children feeling unwell:

If your child is feeling unwell, many of you are already erring on the side of caution, and choosing to keep your child at home. A number of children in school this week have colds, runny noses and sore throats. None of these symptoms are listed as indicative of Covid-19 and therefore it is possible that you may also choose to send your child into school.

May I thank parents and carers for following the **COVID19 guidance**, for keeping children at home who are **symptomatic**, and helping to protect other children and families, and staff at Gig Mill. Please be aware that we are not health professionals in school, so are unable to diagnose children. We ask that children with:

- temperatures,
- new and persistent coughs, or
- those with loss/change of taste and smell

stay at home as per the guidance in the attached leaflet.

In line with national and local guidance we will ask you to collect any child that displays any of the above symptoms in school. Please use the guidance leaflet, NHS helpline for advice and ask for a test for any household member that displays Covid-19 symptoms.

If this person has a negative test and it becomes clear that it was not Covid-19, then let school know, and your children can return to school.

Headteacher: Mrs A Hannaway

The Broadway, Norton, Stourbridge, West Midlands, DY8 3HL (For SAT NAV use DY8 3HP)

Telephone: 01384 818600 e-mail: info@gig-mill.dudley.sch.uk

Having had a number of queries from parents so far this week, and having checked these with the Dudley Public Health team, I felt it would be useful to clarify the following for you.

If someone in your family or family bubble begins to show symptoms, it is essential that all the family who have been in contact with that person should begin a fourteen day self-isolation.

- Please do not send siblings into school if you have a child (or adult) at home with symptoms.

If you can't get a test the symptomatic child (or adult) needs to isolate for 10 days, and the rest of the household for 14 days

- Please do not send siblings into school if you have a child (or adult) at home with symptoms.

If someone refuses to take a test the symptomatic child (or adult) needs to isolate for 10 days, and the rest of the household for 14 days

- Please do not send siblings into school if you have a child (or adult) at home with symptoms.

If someone in your family is unwell with non COVID related symptoms (eg a sore throat), and then develops a high temperature (a COVID related symptom). The isolation period starts from the day they developed the high temperature, not from the day they were initially unwell.

You may also be aware that some schools, including a school locally, are closing classes or year group bubbles because of positive Coronavirus tests in their school. We continue to be vigilant at Gig Mill Primary School with the measures that we have already shared with you. Please be aware that should any of our school community receive a positive test in the future, we may need to contact Public Health England and work with the Health Protection Team to contain the outbreak.

We have also been asked to share with you the below link from the Leader of Dudley Council :-

<https://www.dudley.gov.uk/news/residents-asked-to-protect-their-friends-and-family/>

Thank you again for your ongoing co-operation, support and understanding.

Kind regards,

Mrs Hannaway and Gig Mill team