



## Pencalenick School

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'Academy Trust School specialising in Complex Learning Difficulties and Disabilities'

4<sup>th</sup> October 2021

Dear Parents / Carers,

I am writing to update you again on the current situation in school. We have said from the start that, over this time, we will try to make sure you have as much information as possible so we can all work together to keep everybody safe and well, particularly in light of the individual needs of our pupils. We have had a number of positive test results over the weekend which has impacted on staff and pupils. As a result of this we have closed one bubble in school today because of the number of staff and pupils positive in that group. We have informed Public Health England and have spoken to them again at length this morning. At this point they continue to be happy with how we are operating and advise us to continue as we are. We will keep them informed, and they will review the position regularly with us. As you are aware, it is different to last term as the advice now is that operations carry on as usual with only positive tested or symptomatic staff and pupils being out of school – people who have had contact with positive cases can continue to be here. We understand that this is causing a level of anxiety for some parents and we are supportive that some of you feel that, due to your child's specific circumstances, there is less risk to them if they remain at home during this time. Whilst we cannot authorise this, we will happily send work home and keep in contact with you should you feel this is appropriate. Hopefully this will only be for a short time.

On the ground we are continuing to work in bubbles – with double bubbles outside. There has to be some staff movement between classes so we can cover any staff absence etc and of course taxis are often mixed bubbles. We are letting parents know as soon as there is a positive case confirmed in the group their child is in or if we identify close contact – of course by the time we have this information the contact has already happened.

The pupils in their classrooms are happily carrying on with school life and staff are working hard to make sure they continue to access their timetables but, as you will be aware, we are having to manage this within the context of the impact the virus is currently having on us.

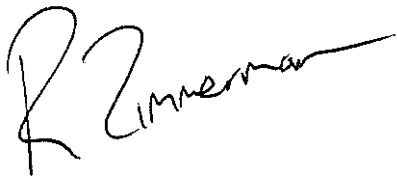
The vaccination role out for pupils starts this week in school - please make sure you complete the consent forms for your child when you receive them.

Thank you again for your support. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me or one of the team

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Kind regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ruth Zimmerman'. The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Ruth Zimmerman  
Head Teacher