



# BANWELL PRIMARY SCHOOL

**Belong Believe Achieve**

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Dear Parents & Carers,

I am writing to inform you about the situation we are facing as a school in the week ahead.

As you will be aware we have had to close our Y1 and Y2 classes due to there being a positive case of COVID. This person has had close contact with both Y1 and Y2 but not YR which is why it is not necessary to close the whole yellow pod. The person who has tested positive is feeling under the weather but is ok. We wish them a speedy recovery.

In addition to this we have had 7 members of staff receive alerts throughout the weekend from NHS Track and Trace telling them that they must self-isolate this week. That is a quarter of the staff. This obviously causes significant logistical challenges for a small school like ours. We have spent the weekend organising how things will run next week. In some cases we have had to redeploy staff so your children may be working with different adults in school this week.

Please be assured that we will do everything possible to keep the school running as smoothly as possible. However, in light of the increasing number of cases that are being seen in the local area it may be worth having a contingency plan in place in the event that further closures are needed. We desperately hope this will not be the case.

To date, it has only been necessary to close one pod throughout the whole pandemic. We are naturally disappointed to have to make our second closure so close to the end of term but I know that you will understand we have no choice. We will continue to do our utmost to keep the whole school community as safe as possible during these challenging times.

This final full week of the school year is like no other we have ever known. I know that the staff who are able to be in school this week will have the full support of our parents and children.

Best wishes,

Claire Pocock  
Headteacher

