



OAKLEY CROSS PRIMARY SCHOOL
LOMOND WALK
WEST AUCKLAND
CO. DURHAM
DL14 9UD

Headteacher: Mrs R Brannan

Email address:

oakleycross@durhamlearning.net

School Website:

www.oakleycross.durham.sch.uk

Telephone: 01388 833186

Fax: 01388 833186

Dear Parents and Carers,

We appreciate that there is a great deal of advice and information in the media regarding COVID at this time. We also know that a number of you are aware of cases of COVID within the community of West Auckland. This is concerning for us all but there are things we can do to stop the virus spreading and to stay safe.

As a school we have very tight measures in place to keep our children and staff safe whilst on school site. We know who children and staff have had contact with in school each day because of our safety measures and we have full support from public health as and when needed. What we don't know is who children have had contact with outside of school. This is where we really must rely on you enforcing the local lockdown restrictions to ensure your children and family remain safe.

We are concerned about the number of children telling us they have been round to a friend's to play or for tea or that they have had a sleepover despite the local lockdown restrictions.

The local restrictions were put in place because cases of COVID are rising in the North East community. It was identified that the main places for transmitting the virus were in the home (people visiting each other), in pubs where people mix with lots of other people and at grass root sporting events. We also know that there are people in the community who will have no COVID symptoms but may well have the virus and be passing it to others without knowing.

What do the local restrictions mean to me and my family?

- You **can't** have visitors in your home or garden – only people who live in your house should be in your house. **You can be fined for breaking this rule.** Children must not be having sleep overs or going for tea or to play in a friend's house. Children should not be playing outside unsupervised as there is very little chance of being certain about who they have had contact with.
- You **can't** socialise with people who do not live in your house in pubs, cafes, restaurants, shops etc from Wednesday 30th September. **You can be fined for breaking this rule.**
- You should not visit any family members in care homes
- You should try to avoid using public transport – if you do need to use it keep a 2m distance where possible and wear a face covering. You should not car share but if absolutely necessary, wear a face covering and leave windows open.



I know many of the restrictions seem to contradict each other and you may not agree with them but they are enforceable by law. Whatever your opinion regarding the restrictions, we all need to work together to help everyone in our community of West Auckland to stay safe.

Regards,
Mrs Brannan