



# Arnside National Primary School

*'Aspire – Believe – Achieve'*

Headteacher: Mr Nick Sharp BA Hons (QTS)

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18<sup>th</sup> January 2022

Dear Parent / Carer

I am writing to inform you that we now have multiple individuals in at least one class / group within our school who have tested positive for COVID-19. Our local Public Health team has confirmed that we now need to consider introducing a wider range of measures to help reduce the risk of further transmission.

Therefore, I am writing to share the following information.

**Additional measures we are introducing (these will be in place until at least 10 days after any new cases are notified in the affected classes / groups)**

- Additional cleaning measures; limit class mixing where possible, postpone cross key stage activities i.e. Eco Club & School Council, separate class groupings at lunchtime, and playground zones for infant / juniors to limit mixing. Further measures may be implemented if cases continue to arise.
- Staff will be asked to wear face coverings in communal areas of the school. Our risk assessments may also identify the need for some staff to wear face coverings in classrooms.
- We are encouraging parents and carers to please wear a face covering whilst dropping off and picking up your child (especially if you may not be able to maintain 2 metres distance from people who are not in your household).
- Some of our activities will be delivered differently: Collective worship is held online, more learning may take place outside and activities that encourage increased aerosol transmission, such as singing, are less likely to happen indoors.
- If your child is in a class where we are seeing multiple cases, we ask you to get a lateral flow (LFD) test if they develop symptoms of illness other than the main 3 symptoms of COVID-19 (such as nausea / vomiting / diarrhoea / loss of appetite, headache (worse than normal), aching muscles and joints, sore throat, cold-like symptoms, or extreme or unusual tiredness).
- We will be encouraging all staff and pupils (over the age of 5) identified as close contacts of positive cases within the setting to follow the [national guidance](#) on daily LFD testing.
- It is unlikely that affected classes will safely be able to undertake any school trips whilst case numbers are high. We will advise you if any planned trips need to be rearranged.
- We will keep classrooms well ventilated wherever possible, so they may be cooler than normal. Please ensure your child brings warm items of uniform with them to school each day in case needed.



Arnside National School, as an academy, is a charitable company limited by guarantee in England and Wales with company number 07840925



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## Please continue to:

- Be vigilant in looking out for the main symptoms of COVID-19 in your child, however mild (a high temperature of 37.8°C or above, a new continuous cough and / or change to sense of taste and smell). If your child develops one of these symptoms, please keep them at home and arrange for them to get a PCR test, whether or not they have already had COVID-19 in the past 90 days.

You can book a PCR test online [here](#). If you do not have access to the internet, please call 119. The quickest way to get a test is by booking to attend a Local Testing Site, however you can also arrange for a test kit to be sent to your home address.

- Encourage your child to wash their hands regularly for at least 20 seconds and use tissues for sneezes and runny noses.
- Encourage all secondary school aged children in your household to self-test twice weekly with LFD tests. Secondary school children are provided with tests via their schools. All adults are also advised to take an LFD test before 'high risk' situations (such as mixing with people indoors or in crowded spaces), and before visiting someone who may be at a higher risk of developing severe illness. Adults can pick up free test kits from many local pharmacies or order kits [online](#).
- Children aged 5 years and over, and fully vaccinated adults, who are identified as a close contact of someone with COVID-19 are advised to conduct daily LFD tests as outlined in the [stay at home guidance](#) and guidance for [contacts of people with confirmed COVID-19 infection who do not live with the person](#). Adults aged 18 years and over who are NOT fully vaccinated (or exempt from isolation), who are notified by NHS Test and Trace that they are a contact of someone with COVID-19 must self-isolate for the time advised.

We know this can be an anxious time for parents / carers, so please don't hesitate to get in touch if you have any questions. We will inform you if we need to introduce any further measures. We will also let you know when we can relax the additional protective measures that have been put in place.

Yours sincerely

Mr Sharp

