



Chesterton Primary School

Green End Road, Cambridge, CB4 1RW

Tel: 01223 728392

Email: admin@chestertonprimary.org

Interim Head Teacher: Mr Richard Martin



January 5th 2022

Dear parent / carer,

Firstly, I would like to wish you all a very Happy New Year. I hope the holiday period has been peaceful and positive for you, and that you are refreshed and ready for the half term ahead.

Ahead of the school opening to all pupils tomorrow, I wanted to be in touch to confirm our approach and plans, particularly in relation to our response to Covid-19 and any positive cases we experience. Our priority continues to be keeping everyone in our community safe and allowing our school to remain open. We have appreciated your support with everything so far, and I am sure this will continue to be a key part of our future success.

Along with this letter, I have included two further files as part of this Parent Mail, as follows:-

- *Parent-Letter-Spring-2022-Cambs*

From the Local Education Authority (LEA), providing updates ahead of the new term.

- *Covid 19 parent flowchart Jan2022*

Created by the LEA as a guide to responding to suspected and confirmed cases of Covid-19.

In school, we will continue to respond to the needs of our setting, as we did throughout the autumn term. We will continue to ensure surface cleaning, handwashing and ventilation of classrooms are prioritised; staff meetings and assemblies will be virtual; visitors to school will be asked to wear masks; staff will wear face masks in communal spaces; staff will continue to take lateral flow tests twice weekly; and non-essential visits to school will not take place. The provision for the children will remain as it was last term. This includes the arrival to and departure from school; lessons; breaks and lunches; and after school clubs. Should we need to make any changes to provision, we will do so in conjunction with the LEA and the Active Learning Trust. Education settings have been advised of the need to be flexible in their provision to allow education to continue. I will keep you updated if changes become necessary in any of our year groups.

We continue to request that you do not send your child to school if they are displaying symptoms of Covid-19, or if they have tested positive through a PCR test. If we are concerned about a child's symptoms in school, we will ask for your support in collecting them and arranging a PCR test before their return to school. You will see reference in the LEA letter to isolation periods ending on day eight of isolation if two negative LFD tests are completed in the preceding 48 hours, and if those tests are taken 24 hours apart. This is an option for you to allow your child to return to school more quickly. However, it does not have to be used and you can keep your child off school for the full ten days, as before, to ensure a full recovery and a safe return to school. As a school, we will ask you to show us the evidence of the negative tests if your child is returning to school after day eight of isolation.

You will also see from the flowchart that children who live with someone who has tested positive for Covid-19, or who are identified as a close contact, should take LFD tests every day for seven days. This is



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to ensure all positive cases are found and to help our communities stay as safe as possible. Any LFD testing for children under five years old, whether for an early end to isolation or as a close contact, is at the discretion of their parent or guardian. We would encourage you to complete this testing with children of school age, where safe to do so, to support the safety measures.

For parents and carers, I would like to request that you wear masks when on the school site, including at drop-off and pick up times. Please also be patient when collecting children and support us by queueing into the driveway and up to the collection points. Staff will be doing their utmost to deliver your children to you promptly and in an orderly manner. I appreciate that you are only on site for a short period, and that you are outside, but these measures, along with ensuring you leave the site promptly, can only support our endeavours to keep our setting open to all pupils.

The national guidance clearly states that school attendance is mandatory for all pupils. However, if you have a particular concern about the welfare of your child, or if you have any queries regarding any of the existing measures, please do get in touch with me via the school office. I will be pleased to arrange a meeting to discuss things further.

With thanks for your continued support.

Yours sincerely,

Richard Martin
Interim Head Teacher