

"We grow together, we learn together, we will achieve our best together"

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Dear Parents/Carers,

We hope you have all had a lovely summer. We are really looking forward to welcoming your children and young people back into school on Monday for what we hope will be a much more settled school year. All the staff have been busy setting up the classrooms which have all had a deep clean over the summer. Please could I emphasise that excellent attendance is now expected.

We have revisited our Covid risk assessment in line with new Government guidance and are pleased to tell you the following.:

- We will no longer be operating bubbles. Children will now be able to mix more freely with their peers and lessons such as Arts Award and Phonics can take place in mixed groups.
- Pupils will once again move around the school to access different lessons where appropriate, using specialist rooms such as the Drama studio, Art room and Food Tech rooms.
- Live assemblies, full choir and band practices, performances and sporting events can resume and we look forward to inviting you back into school later in the term to enjoy some of our events.
- We will resume After School Clubs on Monday 20th September and Youth Club will resume for 14-19 year olds on Monday 27th September. More information regarding this will follow.

However, please be assured that hand washing, strict cleaning regimes and ventilation will be very important across the school. Staff will continue to take Lateral Flow Tests and we would encourage our secondary and sixth form families to continue to test twice weekly. We have a plentiful supply of tests at school which you can collect from reception. Nursery and Primary pupils are not being asked to test at this time. We will however continue to send home any children displaying the key Covid symptoms of:

- New continuous cough
- Loss of or change in taste and smell
- Fever (37.8 or higher)

We would also ask that you do not send you child to school if they are unwell.

Overleaf is some additional advice regarding what you need to do if your child develops Covid symptoms or tests positive. Please do not hesitate to contact school if you have any questions regarding your child's return to school.

Yours sincerely

Mrs G Hughes
Headteacher

Additional advice regarding what you need to do if your child develops Covid symptoms or tests positive

What should I do if my child develops COVID-19 symptoms?

The main symptoms of COVID-19 are:

- new continuous cough and/or
- fever (temperature of 37.8°C or higher)
- loss of or change in, normal sense of taste or smell (anosmia)

If your child develops any of these symptoms, you must arrange for them to have a PCR test as soon as possible. A PCR test can be arranged via the NHS UK (www.nhs.uk) website or by contacting NHS 119 via telephone if you do not have internet access.

Your child should self-isolate immediately and they should not attend school.

Please contact the school by phone to inform us your child has COVID-19 symptoms and you are awaiting a COVID-19 test.

What should I do if my child has COVID-19 confirmed by PCR test?

Anyone with COVID-19 confirmed by PCR test should self-isolate until the latest of:

- 10 days after the onset of their symptoms, or
- 10 days after their test day if they are asymptomatic

Self-isolation means your child should not go to school, attend any out of school activities or visit a friend's house. They should not visit any public places, use public transport or go out to exercise. You should not have visitors into the home except for those providing essential care.

Please contact the school by phone and inform us your child has COVID-19 confirmed by PCR test. It is really important you let us know if your child has confirmed COVID-19 so we can monitor the number of children with COVID-19 across the school.

What should I do if my child is a contact of someone with COVID-19 confirmed by PCR test?

If your child is aged under 18 years and 6 months and does not have any symptoms of COVID-19 (high temperature, new continuous cough, loss of or change in, normal sense of taste or smell) they do not have to self-isolate as a contact of COVID-19.

They are advised to have a PCR test unless they have had a positive PCR test in the last 90 days.

Children aged 5 and under are not advised to take a PCR test unless the confirmed case is someone in their own household.

What should I do if my child has a positive result on a lateral flow device test?

If your child has a positive result on a lateral flow device test, they should self-isolate immediately and you should arrange a PCR test as soon as possible.

Other members of the household do not need to self-isolate whilst you await the PCR test result if they do not have symptoms and are aged under 18 years and 6 months or are fully vaccinated.

What should I do if my child is unwell with signs of an infection but does not have symptoms of COVID-19

Your child should be excluded from school if they are unwell. If concerned you should seek advice from your GP or Pharmacist, they will be able to advise you how long your child should stay off school. Otherwise we would recommend exclusion for 48 hours or until the child is symptom free, whichever is longer. We are not currently advising that preschool children get a PCR test if they do not have the three main symptoms of COVID-19.