



## Sitwell Infant School

Headteacher: Mrs K. Peart

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25<sup>th</sup> November 2021

Dear Parents & Carers,

As we have reached the end of this autumn term, we would just like to update you on the current COVID-19 situation, our measures in school to prevent transmission, and what action you need to take if your child shows any symptoms of COVID-19 over the Christmas break.

Unfortunately, the pandemic is not yet over and we are seeing a rise in COVID-19 infections amongst children and young people. The announcement regarding the Omicron variant has led to some new guidance being published for schools which includes measures designed to slow down the spread of this variant.

### What does this mean for Sitwell Infant School?

#### Face Coverings

Staff will wear face coverings in communal areas, such as in the staff room and in corridors. Visitors, including parents, are asked to wear face coverings in all areas of the school building, unless they are exempt. This includes when visiting the school reception to speak to the administration staff at the beginning or end of the day.

#### Testing

Staff will continue to test twice-weekly using lateral flow devices (LFD tests).

#### Contact tracing and isolation

##### *POSITIVE CASE - Isolation Requirements*

- Children and adults who test positive, or develop symptoms, will need to self-isolate.
- Unvaccinated adults must continue to self-isolate for 10 days, if they are a contact of someone with COVID-19.

##### *Daily rapid testing applies to all CONTACTS who are:*

- Fully vaccinated adults – people who have had 2 jabs.
- All children aged 5 to 18 years and 6 months, regardless of their vaccination status.
- People who can prove they are unable to be vaccinated for clinical reasons.
- People taking part, or have taken part, in an approved clinical trial for a COVID-19 vaccine.
- Under 5's are exempt from self-isolation, and do not need to take part in daily rapid lateral flow testing.





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### Additional Measures

The following measures will remain in place in line with our COVID-19 risk assessment and reflect the DfE guidance:

- Children who are unwell with symptoms, which may be COVID-19, should stay at home and book a PCR test. They should stay at home until they get a negative PCR test result. *Please see the diagram at the bottom of this letter to help identify potential COVID-19 symptoms.*
- Children who receive a positive test result, using a lateral-flow test, should isolate at home and book a PCR test to confirm their result (even if they do not have symptoms).
- Continue to reinforce the importance of thorough hand washing with soap and water, or using hand sanitiser, when soap and water are not readily available.
- Continue to promote good respiratory hygiene messages and to encourage children to catch coughs and sneezes in a tissue and dispose of it in the bin.
- Ensure windows are open in the classroom during the day to aid good ventilation.
- Continue with staggered start, finish, break and lunchtimes to reduce mixing between groups as much as possible, to reduce the risk of transmission of respiratory infections.

We hope that you understand the importance of maintaining these rigorous measures in order to limit the transmission of the virus over the Christmas period and into the spring term.

Finally, thank you for your support in ensuring that you and your child follow these measures in order to keep everyone safe.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs K Peart  
Headteacher



SCHOOL  
MEMBER



Artsmark  
Gold Award  
Awarded by Arts  
Council England



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# COLD OR COVID?

DO YOU HAVE ANY OF THESE SYMPTOMS?



Continuous Headache



Fever



Sore Throat



Loss of smell



Coughing  
Sneezing



Runny Nose

IT MIGHT NOT BE 'JUST A COLD'

Many of the symptoms of COVID-19 are similar as a cold.  
Get a PCR test to make sure it's not COVID-19.

[www.rotherham.gov.uk/coronavirus](http://www.rotherham.gov.uk/coronavirus)



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