

Updated November 2021 (see changes in purple)

The Department for Education (DfE) has stated that schools must operate as close to normality as possible and that we must all learn to live with COVID-19. School is compulsory and our policies related to uniform, attendance and punctuality are now implemented as in pre-pandemic times. Our aim is to ensure children have a happy, engaging, productive and joyful time at school. **There is an increase in the number of COVID cases in the locality and we have been advised to introduce additional measures to keep the school community safe. Our key risk is to our team members becoming unwell – because this would require us to reconsider how to keep children safe with fewer adults. It is very difficult to find supply cover. The whole system is pressured.**

See the DfE links below:

 Taking your child to primary school: what you need to know	 Parent Guidance	 FAQ Leaflet
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How we will keep our school community safe



Hygiene matters...

-  **Hand washing and sanitizer** increases will continue. We also have spot cleaning throughout the school day.
-  **Mask Wearing** is not compulsory though parents **are strongly encouraged to wear masks** on school site. Children do not wear masks in school.
-  **Bubbles** are no longer. The children will be in their normal classrooms and activities like sports and assemblies in the hall will restart.

Ventilation matters...

-  **Ventilation** of classrooms and spaces will continue. Our school was built with a ventilation system that keeps air flowing around spaces. All classrooms have doors to the outside which also gives additional fresh air circulation.

Vigilance matters...

-  **Vaccinations** are reducing serious illness and we therefore highly recommend adults have both vaccinations. Please seek medical advice and book your vaccination [here](#). Primary aged children will not have the COVID-19 vaccination. **We strongly encourage the team and adults to have the COVID vaccination and booster jabs. They are effective and safe and proven to reduce hospitalisation or severe illness.**
-  **Positive Cases.** The NHS is now handling track and trace system. NHS Test and Trace will inform affected individuals, children or their parents or carers that they have been in close contact with a positive case, and advise them to take a PCR test. We would encourage all individuals to take a PCR test if advised to do so.
 - Please email the school telling us your child has a positive case of COVID-19
 - Parents of children who may have been in contact with the child who has a positive case of COVID-19 may be informed by the NHS with advice
 - Read the section: *If you suspect your child has coronavirus or has a positive test* [here](#)
 - **Reduction in number of team members may require us to close a class and start online learning.**
 - Should there be a large number of positive COVID-19 cases, the school will enact our outbreak plan
 - Children who are required to stay at home because they are Positive are entitled to continued education online if they are well enough. **All other children need to be in school as it is compulsory.**

November 2021 Update

Following a marked increase in COVID-19 cases in the area, the Local Authority has issued new guidance. Most of the guidance applies to the team in school so that they are protected and can keep the school open.

Action Required until 17th December 2021

Team

- All staff to wear masks if social distance by 2 metres is not possible.
- We ask all team members to do twice weekly Lateral Flow Tests and report to the NHS. Amy White has test kits.
- No masks in class during learning time as this hinders teaching and learning. The main concern is adult to adult transmission.
- No staff events including morning exercise clubs (unless this is done outside)
- Small group rooms are well ventilated and doors should be opened
- Continue to ventilate classrooms and twice daily purge.
- Teachers to check the CO2 monitors regularly and respond by opening windows to ventilate.
- Staff meetings to be socially distanced and masks worn; or held virtually.

Parents/Visitors

- Visitors to wear masks in communal areas
- We encourage parents to wear masks on school site
- No face to face meetings between parents and the team

Any large events will be risk assessed and a decision will be shared.

Thank you for your cooperation and support in this incredibly complex time