

UpdatedOMICRON VARIANT 2021 (see changes in red)

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 a new variant of concern called Omicron.

The school is already following the requirements of the government's announcement of 28<sup>th</sup> November 2021 because we are in an Enhanced Response Area. However, please see this guidance for clarity.




See the DfE links below:

 <a href="#">Taking your child to primary school: what you need to know</a>	 <a href="#">Parent Guidance</a>	 <a href="#">FAQ Leaflet</a>
--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------


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. The team will wear masks in areas where they cannot social distance.
-  **Bubbles** are no longer. We will continue to work as normally as possible in class and year groups.

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 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](#)
  - 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.**
  - **Any close contact with an Omicron variant will require a 10 day isolation period. NHS test and trace will notify those following the outcome of a PCR test.**



- A number of [African nations](#) have been added to the UK red list. There is a requirement to isolate until a confirmed false result. The DfE is recommending schools consider whether to go ahead with planned international educational visits at this time, recognising the risk of disruption to education resulting from the need to isolate and test on arrival back into the UK.

### Action Required until 17<sup>th</sup> December 2021

#### Team

- All team to wear masks if social distance by 2 metres is not possible.
- Only three people in a staff room at any time with masks on.
- Every member of team to do twice weekly Lateral Flow Tests and report to the NHS. Amy White has test kits.
- No masks in class during learning time
- No team 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.
- PD Meetings to be socially distanced and masks worn; Luke will advise for each meeting

#### 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

#### Events

- Nativity is planned and will be recorded and shared with parents
- 'Twas a Night Before Christmas (School Holiday) 16<sup>th</sup> December 2021
  - Full risk assessment in place
  - Outside activities and stalls will reduce the risk of transmission
  - Enhanced cleaning
  - All those attending including parents and team will be asked to do Lateral Flow Test up to 24 hours before
  - Anyone with symptoms please do not attend – we will reimburse you
  - NHS QR codes displayed around the site and those attending encouraged to check in
  - Encourage mask wearing where social distancing not possible
  - Encourage social distancing as far as possible
- School Christmas Lunch and other lunches will continue as usual

#### Travel

- The government have reintroduced Day 2 PCR testing for all arrivals into the UK. You must self-isolate until you receive the result of your test.
- Anyone working at our school should take this isolation requirement into account and be ready to attend work on 4<sup>th</sup> January 2022.
- Any children who are required to isolate following a trip will be marked as unauthorised absence (unless we are given new guidance from the Local Authority)

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