



Updated Policy & Procedures for Covid-19 for January 2022 onwards

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OVERVIEW

Please support us by following the 5 steps below:

- Wear a face mask on entry to the school site and when entering the Main Reception.
- Ensure that children wash their hands before entering School.
- Parents should 'drop and go' at the start of the day. All parents are encouraged to collect their children as early as is feasible at the end of the school day.
- Where possible, only one parent should drop off and pick up.
- Parents should stay on site no longer than necessary, and should maintain social distancing where practicable.

COVID-SYMPTOMS

Parents must not come onto the school site if they have symptoms of COVID-19.

With regard to testing, if your child has any symptoms (such as high temperature, change to sense of smell/taste, new continuous cough) or is showing signs of a cold or sore throat, we ask that you take them for a PCR test as soon as possible. Please remember that lateral flow tests are designed for regular rather than symptomatic testing. Please do not return to School until results confirm a negative case.

SELF-ISOLATION

Children do not need to self-isolate if they are in contact with someone who has tested positive. However, if a child has been identified as a close contact by the NHS, then he or she will be advised to follow government guidelines on testing below:

“People who are fully vaccinated, or children and young people aged between 5 and 18 years and 6 months, identified as a close contact of someone with COVID-19, should take an LFD test every day for seven days and continue to attend their setting as normal, unless they have a positive test result or develop symptoms at any time. This should be taken before coming to school on school days.

Children under 5 are not being advised to take part in daily testing of close contacts. If a child under 5 is a contact of a confirmed case, they are not required to self-isolate and should not start daily testing. If they live in the same household as someone with COVID-19 they should limit their contact with anyone who is at higher risk of severe illness if infected with COVID-19, and arrange to take a PCR test as soon as possible.

In addition, self-isolation for people who have tested positive for COVID-19 can be ended after 7 days provided that the person has had two negative LFD tests at least 24 hours apart. The first LFD test should not be taken before the sixth day after your symptoms started (or the day your test was taken if you did not have symptoms). It is not necessary to continue to test after two consecutive negative test results. If self-isolation is ended before 10 full days it is advised that contact with anyone who is at higher risk of severe illness if infected with COVID-19 is limited and that people are particularly vigilant about COVID precautions. Furthermore, if your child still feels unwell or has a temperature then the full 10 days of isolation should be completed.”

1. INTRODUCTION: THE POLICY

1.1 The School has complied fully with all Government guidance in respect of the COVID-19 pandemic and continues to do so by ensuring that it keeps abreast of any updates to the guidance or new guidance as and when these are issued. The Risk Assessment is updated as and when there are changes in guidelines or practice.

1.2 During any period of enforced closure (either full or partial) or a phased return, Individual Risk Assessments are completed for all children not in school and who are considered to be at greater risk. These are reviewed at least every two weeks or sooner if circumstances change.

1.3 All staff are expected to ensure that they are fully aware of the COVID-19 Risk Assessment and all School policies and procedures and that they fully comply with them and with this COVID-19 Policy. Staff will be notified of any updates to the COVID-19 Risk Assessment and this Policy.

2. PROCEDURES

2.1 Tests as part of the NHS Test and Trace process can be ordered by telephone via the NHS on 119. Anyone involved in childcare or education has priority access to testing. The COVID-19 symptoms, which may be mild, include a high temperature, a new continuous cough or a loss of sense of smell or taste, even if they are mild.

2.2 Parents should inform the school that a household member of their child has COVID-19 symptoms or has tested positive for COVID-19. If a household member of a child has COVID-19 symptoms or has tested positive for COVID-19, the child will not need to self-isolate unless advised to do so by NHS Test and Trace or the local health protection team. However, children aged 5 and over are strongly advised to take a LFD test every day for 7 days after having been identified as a contact of someone with COVID-19. They should continue to attend school as normal unless they have a positive test result. LFD tests should be taken at the start of the day before leaving the house. Children under 5 years are exempt from self-isolation and do not need to take part in daily testing of close contacts.

2.3 Parents must notify the school if their child is awaiting a PCR test because they have COVID-19 symptoms or if the child tests positive for COVID-19. Children awaiting test results in such circumstances must not attend school. If a child has a positive test result, the child must self-isolate as directed by the NHS. If required, the school will support the NHS and parents in identifying and informing close contacts of the child who is awaiting test results or who has tested positive, including staff.

2.4 Adults who have been in contact with someone who has tested positive for COVID-19 do not need to self-isolate if any of the following apply:

- The member of staff is fully vaccinated – this means that 14 days have elapsed since receipt of the recommended doses of an MHRA approved COVID-19 vaccine in the UK
- The member of staff is taking part, or has taken part in an approved COVID-19 vaccine trial
- The member of staff is not able to get vaccinated for medical reasons. However, the Government guidance states that they are strongly advised to take a LFD test every day for 7 days after having been identified as a contact of someone with COVID-19 (or until 10 days after the household member who has COVID-19 started their self-isolation period if this is earlier). They should continue to attend school as normal unless they have a positive test result. Members of staff should consider limiting contact with people who are at higher risk from COVID-19 and they should inform people that they have been in close contact with in the previous 48 hours that they might have COVID-19.

2.5 If a member of staff has COVID-19 symptoms or has tested positive for COVID-19 then the member of staff must not attend school and must self-isolate as directed by the NHS. If required, the school will support the NHS in identifying and informing colleagues and parents of children with whom the member of staff has been in close contact during the previous 48 hours. Adults and children who have been close contacts with the member of staff do not need to self-isolate but they are strongly advised to take daily LFD tests for 7 days as set out in 2.2 above. Children aged under 5 do not need to self-isolate or take daily LFD tests. Any close contact who develops symptoms must get a PCR test and self-isolate, even if they have had one or more vaccinations. They should all consider limiting contact with people in enclosed spaces, especially those who are at higher risk from COVID-19 and they should inform people that they have been in close contact with in the previous 48 hours that they might have COVID-19. Any close contact who develops symptoms must get a PCR test and self-isolate even if they have had one or more vaccinations.

2.6 The current Government Guidance states that self-isolation for people who have tested positive for COVID-19 can be ended after 7 days provided that the person has had two negative LFD tests at least 24

hours apart. The first LFD test should not be taken before the sixth day after your symptoms started (or the day your test was taken if you did not have symptoms). LFD test results should be reported. You do not need to continue to test after you have had two consecutive negative test results.

3.0 Safe Working Practices Safe working practices include:

- Presence at school – Any adult (staff and parents) or child who has tested positive for COVID-19 or who is awaiting a test or with symptoms of COVID-19 such as a raised temperature; new, persistent cough; or loss of taste or smell or in the case of a child, diarrhoea, vomiting or abdominal cramps, must not attend school. They must self-isolate and get a PCR Test, even if they have had one or more vaccinations. Adults and children must follow the self-isolation requirements as set out in Section 2 above. No member of staff or child shall return to school if they have COVID-19 until they are fully recovered. The School should be kept informed during any isolation period.
- Social distancing – Whilst it is no longer a requirement for people to remain at a distance of 2m apart from people they don't live with, staff and parents are encouraged to remain vigilant and to minimise the number, proximity and duration of close contacts they have with those that they do not live with. Close face-to-face contact should be avoided.
- Hand washing – Staff and children are required to wash their hands at regular intervals throughout the day for at least 20 seconds following the Government guidance for handwashing techniques. In particular, they should wash their hands after coughing or sneezing, after using the toilet, before and after handling food and before or after playtimes. Young children are supervised whilst washing their hands to ensure that they do this correctly. Signage is on display around the campus reminding campus users of these expectations. Hand sanitisers are accessible at key locations around the campus, especially where resources might potentially be shared. Additional outdoor sinks are available outside Pre-Prep and also in the Quad.
- 'Catch It, Bin It, Kill It' protocols are followed after sneezing or coughing. Signage is on display around the campus to this effect. Tissues have been provided in all rooms and lidded bins have been provided for the disposal of used tissues. Adults and children are encouraged not to touch their faces, eyes, noses or mouths
- Face masks – Children may wear face masks in crowded spaces if they wish to do so but this is not currently a Government requirement or recommendation. In line with current Government guidance, it is recommended that staff and adults (including visitors) should wear face coverings when moving around corridors and communal areas unless they are exempt from doing so.

4 OPERATIONAL PROCEDURES Following the most recent Government Update (January 2022) these additional procedures will be implemented

4.1 Parents will be restricted from coming into the school site / buildings through the closure of the rear gate. Parents were informed via email on 5.1.21

4.2 Visitors to the school will be discouraged, unless it is essential and will be asked to provide evidence of a negative LFT on the morning of their visit. They will be asked to wear face masks, unless medically exempt.

This guidance is reviewed weekly or was and when updated information is published by the DfE.

I Sterling

January 2022