

Building each other up



with God as our firm foundation

St. Paul's Church of England (A) Primary School

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Returning to school after the Christmas holidays. Update for Parents/Carers

Dear Parents/Carers,

As you will be aware, there have been changes to the guidance over the Christmas break so I felt it would be useful to outline what this means for our school in the coming weeks.

Self-isolation period for individuals who test positive for COVID-19

Since Wednesday 22 December, the 10 day self-isolation period for people who record a positive PCR test result for COVID-19 has been reduced to 7 days in most circumstances. Individuals may now take LFD tests on day 6 and day 7 of their self-isolation period. Those who receive two negative test results are no longer required to complete 10 full days of self-isolation. The first test must be taken no earlier than day 6 of the self-isolation period and tests must be taken 24 hours apart. If both these test results are negative and you do not have a high temperature, you may end your self-isolation after the second negative test result and return to your education setting from day 8. Anyone who is unable to take LFD tests will need to complete the full 10 day period of self-isolation.

For further information - [Stay at home: guidance for households with possible or confirmed COVID-19 infection.](#)

Daily testing for close contacts of COVID-19

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.**



Children under 5

Regular LFD tests are not recommended for children aged under 5. If they are a contact of a confirmed case, they are not required to self-isolate and should not start daily testing. If they live with someone who has COVID-19 they are not legally required to self-isolate but you should limit their contact with anyone who is at higher risk of severe illness if infected with COVID-19 and arrange for them to take a PCR test as soon as possible. They can continue to attend an education or childcare setting while waiting for the PCR result. If the test is positive, they should follow the [stay at home: guidance for households with possible or confirmed COVID-19 infection.](#)

School measures

In school we will continue with the control measures we had in place last term such as rigorous hand washing and cleaning routines in school and keeping all areas well ventilated. In line with guidance, doors will be closed if classroom temperatures drop down and it becomes cold in the classrooms.

During the last week before the Christmas holiday, following advice from Wolverhampton Public Health, we introduced additional measures to reduce the risk of transmission across school. This included not holding whole school / mixed class worship and keeping year groups separate at playtimes and lunchtimes. Staff have been also advised to increase testing from twice weekly to three times a week. These measures will remain in place for the first week back at school while we monitor the situation and any cases that are reported. We will continue to operate in line with all government guidance and any advice given by Wolverhampton Public Health.

When arriving at school for drop-off and collection, the gate is open for a 15-20 min window which we hope will help avoid large numbers of people gathering. Where people are waiting at the gate or by classrooms, we would encourage children and parents to observe social distancing. Although not mandatory, parents may wish to wear a face covering when entering the school site.

All parents and visitors coming into school will be required to wear a face mask (unless exempt) and are advised to take a LFT before arriving at school.

Please notify school as soon as possible if your child develops symptoms or has a positive LFT or PCR result.

Thank you for your continued support and understanding.

Yours sincerely

Mrs J. Ferretti
Headteacher

