

## ST CHAD'S PATCHWAY CE VC PRIMARY SCHOOL

Headteacher: Mrs. S. Jenkins  
Tel: 01454 866523  
E-Mail: [admin@stchadsprimaryschool.co.uk](mailto:admin@stchadsprimaryschool.co.uk)  
Website: <http://www.stchadsprimaryschool.co.uk/>  
Twitter: @StChadsPrimSch

Cranham Drive  
Patchway  
South Glos  
BS34 6AQ

Friday 7<sup>th</sup> January 2022

### **Re: Welcome back and Covid updates**

Dear Parents/Carers,

Happy New Year! Hope you all had a wonderful holiday.

It has been fantastic to see the children back in school this week and hear about their holidays.

Following Local Authority, Public Health and Health and Safety advice, from Monday, we will be implementing a few extra precautions (to be reviewed at the end of the month) to help further protect the community from the rising cases of Covid-19. Please let me reassure you that at this current time we have not reached outbreak management in any year group or phase; our priority is to reduce onward transmission so that we try to avoid further disruption to our children's education.

In addition to our current practice, we will

- Pause assemblies in the school hall. Assemblies to take place in classrooms.
- Reduce indoor mixing across phases (apart from to deliver small group intervention).
- Keep the number of visitors to the school to a minimum, limiting to professionals visiting for Educational support and those visitors who help to ensure the safe and effective running of the school.
- Ask all staff and visitors to wear face coverings in communal areas.
- Continue to make effective use of CO2 monitors in classrooms to ensure good ventilation.
- Move Key Stage 2 lunch to classrooms to reduce the number of children in the hall.

In the event we reach outbreak management, we may need to implement additional actions but for the time being the above actions will be implemented and reviewed on 28<sup>th</sup> January (with the hope we can revert back to our original plan).

Thank you as always for working with us to protect the school community. We are experiencing (as I'm sure you are) an overload of information regarding changes in expectations regarding Covid-19. If you are unsure, please contact us and we will take



advice on your behalf if we need to check! In the meantime, please see below for changes being implemented.

Stay safe everyone,

Kind regards,

Steph Jenkins (Headteacher)

### **New changes**

#### **Testing**

Previously, it has been advised that individuals should pause taking an LFD test for 90 days after testing positive for Covid-19. Even if someone has tested positive for COVID-19 within the last 90 days, they are now strongly encouraged to take part in LFD testing once they have completed their isolation period for their prior infection. However, an individual should only take a PCR test within 90 days of testing positive if they are symptomatic of Covid-19.

#### **Ending isolation early**

As you will be aware, 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. This also applies to children under 5, with LFD testing at parental or guardian discretion. If both of these test results are negative, and an individual does not have a high temperature, individuals may end their self-isolation after the second negative test result, and return to their education or childcare setting from day 7 (if the LFD tests were taken early enough in the day).

Anyone who is unable to take LFD tests will need to complete the full 10 day period of self-isolation.

#### **For example:**

Day 6: LFD test taken 8am, result negative

Day 7: LFD test taken 8am, result negative

Individual may end isolation immediately and return to education setting.

#### **From Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> January:**

#### **Asymptomatic LFD positive tests**

The UKHSA have confirmed that confirmatory PCR tests are no longer required in England from 11 January for people **without symptoms** who get a positive lateral flow test. The LFT will count as the confirmation so isolation will begin from the LFT.

People experiencing one of the three official COVID symptoms - a high temperature, a new, continuous cough and a loss or change to your sense of smell or taste - will still be expected to get a PCR.

