

# North Park Primary School

*'Achieving and growing, together in friendship.'*



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## Return to School – January 2022

Happy New Year! It has been lovely to welcome the children back to school, especially in these challenging times, and they have settled back in really well.

Inevitably, there are some children, families and staff who have diagnosed Covid 19. The new variant of the virus is particularly virulent and I just wanted to reassure parents that we will do all we can to ensure all of our school community is as safe as possible. We aim to ensure children continue to access their full curriculum and I sincerely hope that staff absence does not increase to levels which result in class/bubble closures. We continue to liaise with the LA and follow DFE and DCC advice, as required. Additional cleaning is underway and we monitor ventilation daily. We also continue to ensure some separation between key stages and have reduced assemblies for the time being.

Your support in ensuring school remains as safe as possible for your children is vital. With that in mind we ask:

- Please wear a mask (unless exempt) if you need to come to the main office, at drop off and pick up times and if you collect children from After School Club. Staff do not routinely wear masks in primary school during lessons but may use them for first aid, or if they feel this would be safer in some circumstances where they work closely with children.
- If your child develops any of the usual symptoms (temperature, persistent cough, headache) please organise for a test – a PCR is best but the government have advised that at present a positive Lateral Flow means you do not need a PCR. Other symptoms at the moment may include a sore throat and tummy ache in children.
- The isolation period is ten days, unless you have two negative lateral flow tests on days 6 and 7 of your isolation period, taken 24 hours apart; in that instance children can return to school on day 8 – but **only** if these tests are negative on both days. Otherwise please wait until 10 days have passed.
- If your child tests negative on a Lateral Flow Test but continues to have symptoms we strongly advise a PCR – we have had some instances where Lateral Flow Tests are negative but PCR tests are positive.
- If members of the household are positive, children do not need to isolate – only those with the infection. However household members are advised to test using Lateral Flow Tests for 7 days; a precautionary PCR is also advised, as long as these are available.
- We appreciate parents sharing test results with us so that we can complete our daily returns to the DFE in relation to cases.

If we are advised that any other measures are needed due to cases in school, locality or nationally, we will update you as soon as possible. In the meantime, I hope you all manage to remain safe and well and thank you for your understanding about any changes we may need to make in future.

Sincerely,

Mrs P Monk



SCHOOL MEMBER

