



January 4, 2022

Dear Families

Happy New Year!

I hope you have had a good rest and been able to spend time with family and friends. However, we look forward to welcoming you back tomorrow.

The Government has requested schools help minimise the spread of COVID. Please find below some of the relevant updated guidance.

Our risk assessment and contingency plans have been updated following this guidance. To minimise the risk of spreading we will continue to work in bubbles and keep the school well ventilated. If your child has symptoms please test them before sending them in. Our aim is to look after one another and keep safe. We shall continue with the gate closing at **8.50 a.m.** Please help by arriving on time, learning starts at 8.50a.m.



### **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 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. 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](#).

### **Information on the changes to the 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, unless you cannot test for any reason.

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 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.

### PE Days

Children can continue to wear their PE kit into school on their designated PE day. Please ensure children wear our full school uniform on other days.

Wednesday	Year 6 Year 4	Tennis Forest School
Thursday	Year 1	PE
Friday	Year 3	PE
Monday	Year 2	PE
Tuesday	Year 5 Year R	PE PE

### Hope for 2022

Whether 2021 brought you success, fulfilment, and joy or you faced grief, setbacks, and struggle, you can look ahead to 2022 with hope.

[Jeremiah 29:11](#) tells us "for I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future."



### A Prayer to Keep God First This New Year

Dear God,

Thank you that you make all things new.

Thank you for all that you've allowed into our lives this past year, the good along with the hard things, which have reminded us how much we need you and rely on your presence filling us every single day.



We pray for your Spirit to lead us each step of this New Year. We ask that you will guide our decisions and turn our hearts to deeply desire you above all else. We ask that you will open doors needing to be opened and close the ones needing to be shut tight.

We ask for your wisdom, for your strength and power to be constantly present within us. We pray you would make us strong and courageous for the road ahead. Give us ability beyond what we feel able, let your gifts flow freely through us.

We pray for your protection over our families and friends.

We pray that you would give us discernment and insight beyond our years, to understand your will, hear your voice, and know your ways.

AMEN

Best wishes  
Ms Justine Brown  
Head Teacher