



King's Oak Primary School

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Visit our website: www.kingsoakprimary.co.uk

Friday 14th January 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been a very exciting week here at King's Oak as we have welcomed OFSTED to the school on Tuesday and Wednesday. Thank you to the many parents who shared positive experiences with the team. The children were an absolute credit and shared with the inspectors what life was like at the school. The full report will be shared with parents in approximately 30 days and we cannot wait to share the findings with you all.

As I explained last week we are seeing increased numbers of Covid cases in school. There is comprehensive information on our website and at the end of this newsletter as to what we are doing to reduce spread and maintain education.

I have written to all parents today to share new guidance around Covid. In summary the new information is:

- If you or a member of your household tests positive using a Lateral Flow Device (LFD) you no longer need to get a PCR test to confirm this
- However if you have any symptoms of Covid19 you should still seek a PCR test, even if you have tested negative on a LFD
- The self-isolation period is changing from Monday 17th January. This means that a child who has tested positive can return to school after 5 days of isolation, assuming they test negative on a LFD on day 5 and on the morning of day 6. More information on this is outlined in the Covid letters sent out today

We understand that the frequent changes in guidance can be confusing and so if you need any help in understanding what to do, please contact the school office who will assist you.

Unfortunately the increase in cases has affected our ability to offer education to everyone in Reception and Nursery next week. I have written separately to parents of children in these classes. **Children in all other year groups should attend school as normal next week.** Please contact the school office with any questions about attendance next week.

Smoking on the school site

Can I remind all parents that King's Oak Primary School is a non-smoking site so smoking and vaping is not allowed. Staff will be reminding any parents who do not follow these simple rules of their responsibilities in this area.

Dates for your diary

Friday 22nd July - this is now a non-school day. This is because of the Queen's Jubilee falling in the May half term and us needing to put an additional day in for this.

We have rebooked flu vaccinations for 31st January and we will be sending out updated paperwork for parents to complete in advance next week. If you have any questions once you have received the forms, please contact the school office who will arrange for someone to assist you.

Many thanks for your continued support.

Mr Morley-Smith
Headteacher

Mrs McStraw
Deputy Headteacher

Covid information for parents

What to do if your child develops symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19) or tests positive for COVID-19

Typical symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19) are a new, continuous cough, or a high temperature, or a loss of, or change in, their normal sense of taste or smell (anosmia). If your child develops symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19), they should get a PCR test and remain at home at least until the result is known.

- If the PCR test is negative, the child can end self-isolation and return to the setting
- If the PCR test is positive, the child should isolate until at least 10 days (or 5, if you get a negative LFD test day 5 and 24 hours later another negative LFD test day 6) after their symptoms appeared. If your child still has a temperature regardless of LFD results, they must stay away from the setting until this returns to normal.
- If anyone in your household uses an LFD test for asymptomatic testing, and tests positive, from the 11 January 2022 they do not need to get a confirmatory PCR test. You must log this test on the government website [report their result on GOV.UK](https://www.gov.uk/report-your-test) and begin their 10 day isolation immediately (or 5, if you get a negative LFD test on day 5 and 24 hours later another negative LFD test on day 6).

Please note that we have seen that additional symptoms of sore throat, upset stomach, runny nose, headache, or unusual fatigue (tiredness) could be early warning signs of a potential COVID-19 infection. We advise that children with these symptoms should be kept at home, and a PCR test should be booked if any of the typical COVID-19 symptoms appear (see above). If further symptoms don't arise then the child can return to the setting when they are well.

If your child does develop COVID-19 symptoms, you can seek advice from the NHS at <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/check-if-you-have-coronavirus-symptoms/>. If you are concerned about your child's symptoms, or they are worsening you should contact NHS 111 at <https://111.nhs.uk/> or by phoning 111.

What we are doing in school to limit transmission of Covid19:

- All staff are LFD (Lateral Flow Device) testing twice a week.
- We are encouraging all staff to have taken up their vaccination, and recommend staff book a booster as soon as possible.
- Staff meetings (whole staff) are remote
- Phonics groups, KS1 and 2 sports and afterschool clubs can still take place as the children are mainly in consistent groups. However we recommend that children are separated within these wherever possible in their year groups
- All staff (unless exempt) are wearing face coverings in shared spaces and corridors. If anyone forgets a mask then these are available around the school. Staff social distance wherever possible, even within year groups.
- Co2 monitors are in place around the school and are signalling when additional ventilation is needed. This is resolved by opening windows and doors as appropriate. A clear balance is in place to maintain adequate ventilation and a reasonable room temperature.
- HEPA filters are in place in classrooms where the Co2 monitors have indicated they should be used. Guidance on the use and placement of filters has been received from the Local Authority and shared with staff
- Household contacts are required to LFD test each day for 7 days, both staff and children over 5
- Frequent hand washing and use of sanitiser is very important and promoted by all staff
- We continue to be very vigilant to symptoms in ourselves and within the pupil community, seeking testing as required.
- Phase assemblies still take place in KS1 and 2 with a clear gap between the year groups, high levels of ventilation monitored by a Co2 monitor and kept to a maximum of 15 minutes.
- Although the majority of meetings are now remote, meetings with parents and other professionals can still take place in person if required. If this is the case, a sensible distance is maintained in a well ventilated room.
- We report all cases to the Local Authority via the required online form. Our outbreak management plan is ready to be utilised if the number of cases reaches the threshold for further measures. We are in frequent contact with local public health representatives.
- We remind parents of symptoms and any changes to local and national measures weekly through the school newsletter and pass on any LA flowcharts as they are reviewed.
- Further details of our approach are available on our school website