



1st September 2021

Dear Parents and Carers

I hope you have all had a lovely summer. We are very much looking forward to welcoming the children back on Monday and getting back to normal. I can now confirm our new arrangements for the start of term.

Start / Finish Times:

The school **gates will continue to be opened at 8.40am** – we will continue to use the larger double gate for entry and the smaller single gate for exit as this helps to ease congestion. Children must be in class **ready to be registered for 9am promptly**. The school **gates will be locked at 9am**. The school day will **finish at 3.15pm for all children**. Parents can collect their children from the school yard as normal at this time – there will be no staggered start and finish times. The school gate will be opened at 3.10pm for collection of children.

Wrap Around Care:

Breakfast and After School Club will return from Monday 6th September – slots can be booked via ParentMail.

Class Bubbles:

In line with government guidance, we will no longer be operating a 'bubble' system in school and children will be able to mix more freely at playtimes and around school during the day. This means we will also be able to open up after school clubs more freely and resume our school choir. The children will also be able to have whole school assemblies in the school hall together again.

Masks:

Parents and carers are no longer required to wear masks on the yard; however you can of course continue to do so if you choose to. We would ask you to continue to be mindful of social distancing when on the school yard please. We will continue to ask all parents and visitors to sanitise their hands upon entry into the school building. We will also operate a 'one in, one out' policy for access to the school office, meaning that if you see another parent or visitor at the office hatch, we would like you to wait outside until the office staff have dealt with them and they have exited. It will be a matter of personal choice for staff to wear masks around school if they wish to. There continues to be no expectation for children to wear masks.

Cleaning / Hand Washing:

In line with government guidance, we will continue to give a very high priority to regular hand washing / sanitising in school and children will still have timetabled slots for hand washing throughout the school day. We will continue with our current enhanced cleaning procedures in school. We will also ensure good ventilation in school and continue to keep all windows open to allow fresh air to circulate.




Testing:



School staff will continue to be provided with LFD tests to use twice weekly and we would strongly encourage parents to take advantage of the free testing kits available from all our local pharmacies, including Port Rd and Wigton Rd pharmacies.

Positive Cases / Self Isolating:

There is no longer a requirement for vaccinated adults or children under the age of 18 to self isolate if they have been in close contact with a confirmed case, unless they develop symptoms themselves and / or have a subsequent positive test result. Schools are no longer required to carry out contact tracing of close contacts. In the event that we have a positive case in school, we will follow all public health advice rigorously and inform any individuals affected if they advise us to do so. Please check the information below for a more detailed guide to current self-isolation requirements.

<p>When should my child self-isolate or miss school?</p> 	 <p>NO</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• All children MUST attend school unless they are ill.• From 16th August 2021, children under 18 (or double-vaccinated adults) do not need to self-isolate or miss school if a member of their household or a contact, has Covid.• Instead, they will need to book a PRC test but can continue coming to school so long as they have no symptoms, and the test result is negative.
	 <p>YES</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• If your child develops Covid symptoms at home, they should <u>stay at home</u> and should book a PRC test), <u>NOT</u> a Lateral Flow test.• If your child develops Covid symptoms at school, they will be sent home and you should book them a PRC test.• If your child tests positive for Covid, they will need to self-isolate. The rest of the household does not need to self-isolate if they are under 18 or fully vaccinated – but instead should book a PRC test.

If you have any concerns or queries at all, please do not hesitate to get in touch with us.

I look forward very much to welcoming you all back on Monday morning.

Kind Regards,

Miss Weston