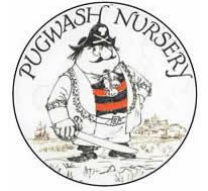




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16/03/22

RE: Updated COVID-19 Guidance – March 2022

I hope that this letter finds you and your family safe and well.

In line with the Government's plan for 'Living with COVID', I would like to outline how, as a school, we are continuing to respond to this and endeavouring to ensure our school operates as effectively as possible during this new phase.

As you will know, we have recently had an increase in the number of positive cases in school. The good news is that they are beginning to decrease again. We would like to ensure this downward trend continues and therefore we are asking for your assistance with this.

Testing

Should you require test kits, these can be ordered online, free of charge until 1st April at <https://www.gov.uk/order-coronavirus-rapid-lateralflow-tests>.

Developing Symptoms of COVID-19

Where you or your child develop symptoms of COVID-19, it continues to be recommended that you arrange for a PCR test to be completed at a testing centre. This will remain the advice up to 1st April 2022, at which point the Government has indicated that mass testing will end. If you can't access a PCR test, then please test using an LFD test. If your child tests positive for COVID-19, it is recommended that they self-isolate in line with previously issued guidance.

Pupils who self-isolate will be able to return to school on day 6 of their self-isolation period so long as they have tested negative on a lateral flow test on day 5 and 6. Tests must be taken 24 hours apart. Remote learning will continue to be in place for anyone who is required to self-isolate.

Where your child develops symptoms of COVID-19 whilst at school, they will continue to be sent home in line with previously established protocols. We will contact you and ask you to collect them as soon as possible. In this instance, we would recommend that your child completes a COVID test as soon as possible and self-isolates until it is confirmed that they do not have COVID-19 or their self-isolation period ends.

The same self-isolation protocols are in place for all of our staff members, as we recognise the importance of ensuring our staff are well and are given time to recover at home and equally we have a responsibility to our community, to not knowingly increase the chance of infection for others.

Thank you so much to those parents who have contacted us to inform us that they, themselves, have tested positive and therefore need to organise for different collection and drop off arrangements for their children, to minimise the risk of further spreading COVID to our school community. It is so heartening to know that despite the legal obligation to self-isolate ending, you have acted with care and compassion towards others by not exposing them to unnecessary risk.

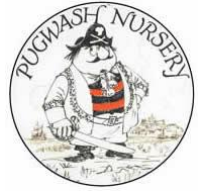
We would request that you continue NOT coming to the school to drop off and collect your child if you are testing positive. Please contact the school and we can come to an arrangement with you whereby your child can still attend



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school, whilst utilising safe drop off and collection arrangements, mitigating against positive cases having contact with our school community.

Again, masks are not compulsory but we still appreciate seeing them, particularly, if you are concerned that you may have covid. We all want to have our children and staff healthy, well and in school, it is a community effort to ensure this happens and we thank you in advance for helping us with this.

Close Contacts

It remains the case that should your child be a close contact of a person who has tested positive, they should continue to attend school as normal. Only if they develop symptoms of COVID-19 should they not attend school. This also applies whereby members of a child's household have tested positive.

Kind regards

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'k martin'.

Miss Kelly Martin

Headteacher