



## Return to School – Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> January 2022

Dear Parents/Carers,

We hope that you and your family had a lovely Christmas break, despite many families being impacted by COVID-19. I am writing to you today following the latest update to schools published on 2<sup>nd</sup> January 2022.

- All pupils should return to school on Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> January 2022. Whilst it is not a requirement for primary aged pupils to undertake a lateral flow test before returning to school, we would strongly encourage all pupils to do so.
- There has been no change to the guidance for primary schools and it is not a requirement for pupils or staff to wear a face covering as it is in secondary schools.
- Classrooms will remain well ventilated and may be cooler than normal so please ensure your child has additional layers under their uniform on cold days.
- Children will be expected to wash their hands on arrival at school and regular handwashing and hand gel will be used throughout the day.
- If a child displays any symptoms of COVID whilst at school, parents will be contacted to collect their child and should arrange a PCR test.
- Children should not attend school if they are displaying symptoms of COVID and a PCR test should be arranged.
- If a child tests positive on a LFD they should continue to get this confirmed by a PCR test.
- If a child tests negative on a PCR test, and they are well enough, they should attend school as normal.
- If a child tests positive from a PCR test, there has been a change to the guidance in relation to isolation periods as follows:
  - 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.
  - 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.





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- 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.

All contact tracing should be undertaken by the NHS track and Trace service, however we will continue to update parents where we know there has been close contact.

Parents should report positive LFD and PCR test results to the school office, either by telephone or by email at [office@bretforton.worcs.sch.uk](mailto:office@bretforton.worcs.sch.uk)

As a school we would like to take this opportunity to thank our families for your continued support. We will endeavour to continue to provide the best education and educational experiences to our pupils as we welcome in the New Year.

Warm regards,

Kevin Riley  
Head of School

