



Ubley Church of England Primary School

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Re: Daily Routines and the Covid-19 Pandemic

I am writing to update you about our procedures and arrangements for the start of the new school year 2021/22.

As you may be aware, the Department for Education updated its guidance for schools this summer. Keeping children in consistent bubbles in schools is no longer recommended by the government and children are no longer required to self-isolate if they are in close contact with someone who has tested positive (including people in the same household). Instead they will be advised to take a PCR test. Schools are also no longer expected to do contact tracing – this will now be done through the NHS Test and Trace app. If anyone tests positive they must self-isolate and stay at home for 10 days.

See <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/what-parents-and-carers-need-to-know-about-early-years-providers-schools-and-colleges-during-the-coronavirus-covid-19-outbreak> for more details.

When the children return to school on Monday 6th of September there will no longer be any staggered start and end times. The gate will be opened at 8:35 and the children can go straight to their classrooms. Staff will be available in the playground to welcome and support the children. Registration will start at 8:45.

At home time, the school gate will open at 3:00pm for parents to come into the playground and the teaching staff will bring the children out at 3:15. On Wednesdays every week, the children should come to school wearing their PE clothes.

Volunteer helpers are welcome to come into school this term. Please let your child's class teacher know if you can offer any time and support. This can be help with learning (reading/number games etc) or in other ways such as help with the school garden.

All our safety measures will be in place and reinforced by staff to ensure that the children follow good hand and respiratory hygiene procedures throughout the day. Windows and doors will be open during the day to allow good ventilation in classrooms and there will continue to be additional cleaning of frequently touched surfaces and equipment.

Staff will be participating in lateral flow testing twice a week and we would encourage all adults in the community to also do this. Tests may be obtained from [Order coronavirus \(COVID-19\) rapid lateral flow tests - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)

If your child displays any Covid-19 symptoms they should get a PCR test as soon as possible and stay at home until a negative result has been confirmed (or for 10 days if it is positive)

The main symptoms of COVID-19 are:

- a high temperature
- a new, continuous cough – this means coughing a lot, for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours
- a loss or change to sense of smell or taste – this means they cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal

The Safety measures that we will be implementing are fully outlined in our updated Covid-19 risk assessment. This will be available on the school's website on Friday.

In addition, we have created a school outbreak management plan (or contingency plan) if there is extremely high prevalence of COVID-19 in the community. This outlines the measures that will be reintroduced if an outbreak happens. The government's current definition of an outbreak in a school is when *5 children or staff, who are likely to have mixed closely, test positive for Covid-19 within a 10day period (or 10% of children/staff) or of someone has been admitted to hospital with Covid-19.* Examples of contingency measures include the reintroduction of the class bubble systems previously used and the reactivation of home learning arrangements.

If you have any questions please don't hesitate to contact us.

We are all looking forward to welcoming the children back to school next week and all the exciting learning opportunities and events that the new school year will bring.

Ian Harvey

Headteacher



Collaboration of East Harptree and Ubley Primary Schools

Lighthouse School's Partnership