



West End Primary School Newsletter

9 September 2021

Covid Protocols

Thank you for your patience as we continue to put protocols in place for the safety of the children, staff and parents. I have attached two flowcharts, which will also be added to the Covid page of our website, about what to do if your child is symptomatic and/or tests positive for Covid and if your child has been in close contact with a positive case.



Winter Vomiting/Sickness and Diarrhoea



We are now entering the winter bug season. Public Health England advises that if a child has non-Covid related sickness and/or diarrhoea he/she should not attend school until 48 hours after the last bout of sickness or diarrhoea. Please help us to reduce infection rates by following this advice.

Attendance

Please inform the school office by phone if your child is not attending due to illness or for any other reason. The office is open from 8:00am to 4:00pm. If you are planning a term time holiday you must apply for authorisation in writing in advance, forms are available on the website or from the school office. Although term time holidays are not authorised, except in very exceptional circumstances, it is important that we know where your child is and why he/she is not attending.



Punctuality



We have now returned to our usual drop off system of opening the doors for all children, except Nursery, at 8:45am and closing them promptly at 8:55am. Nursery doors open at 8:50am and close at 9:00am. If your child is not in school by 8:55am (9:00am for Nursery) you must take him/her to the school office to be registered. Please do not knock on your child's entrance door as the staff will all be in the classrooms teaching the children. If you know you are going to be late please let the school office know in advance.

Information about your Child's Teaching and Learning this Year

Your child's class teacher will be emailing you information about the curriculum and any information specific to their class/year group in the next week. Please keep a look out for this dropping into your inbox. Information may also be shared on Tapestry and Class Dojo. Long and medium term planning will be added to the school website.



Homework



We will be starting to send out homework again in the week beginning 20th September. Some homework will be sent via Tapestry and Class Dojo. Your child's class teacher will send out more information in due course.

Bikes and Scooters

We are now in a position to allow the children to bring their bikes and scooters to school and leave them in the bike and scooter racks during the day. The children must not ride their bikes or scooters on the school site before or after school.



Year 6 Secondary School Applications



The portal for applications for secondary school places for our current Year 6 opens this **Sunday 12th September** at <https://www.northumberland.gov.uk/Education/Schools/School-admissions-places-appeals-1/Yr-5-Middle-Yr-7-Secondary-Yr-9-High-entry-applica.aspx> . To make sure you have the best chance of getting your preferred placement you should fill in the form before the deadline of **31st October 2021** and no, we can't believe it's come around this fast either!

Staff Update

As parents of children in Sycamore Class will already know, Mrs. Milne is pregnant. She will be starting her maternity leave on Friday 17th September and I am sure you will join us in wishing her all the best for the arrival of her new little one. Whilst she is away Miss Watson will take over the teaching of Sycamore Class full time and Mrs. Fisher, who has worked in the school in the past and knows us well, will replace Miss Watson and teach Hazel Class on Mondays.

The children may have already told you that I have reduced my working week and will now only be working Mondays to Thursdays. Miss Porter, our Deputy Headteacher, will take over as headteacher on Fridays. I am sure you will give her your support.



Term Dates 2021-2022

Fri 22 nd Oct	Break up for half term
Mon 1 st Nov	Autumn term B starts
Fri 17 th Dec	Break up for Christmas holidays
Wed 5 th Jan	Spring term A starts
Fri 18 th Feb	Break up for half term
Mon 28 th Feb	Spring term B starts
Fri 8 th Apr	Break up for Easter holidays
Tues 26 th Apr	Summer term A starts
Mon 2 nd May	Closed for May day
Fri 27 th May	Break up for half term
Mon 6 th June	Summer term B starts
Fri 22 nd July	Break up for summer holidays



Tuesday 4th January and Monday 25th April are staff training days.

Yours sincerely

Jane Bushell

Mrs J Bushell
Headteacher

If your child is symptomatic

Arrange a free PCR test

(Your child should isolate until the test result arrives)

Is the test positive?

Yes



Inform school as soon as possible

Your child must isolate for 10 days or until he/she is no longer symptomatic

Test and trace will contact you to discuss close contacts

Double vaccinated adults and children under 18 years 6 months do not need to isolate but should take a PCR test as soon as possible and be vigilant for symptoms

No



Inform school as soon as possible

Your child may return to school as soon as he/she is well

If your child tests positive on a LFD test, you should arrange a PCR test as soon as possible and your child should isolate until the result arrives. You should inform school as soon as possible.

If your child is a close contact of a positive case

(e.g. someone in your household, a family member or friend your child sees regularly, a member of a club your child attends or if you are contacted by Test and Trace)

Arrange a free PCR test

Inform school as soon as possible

(Your child does not need to isolate until the test result arrives)

Is the test positive?

Yes



Inform school as soon as possible

Your child must isolate for 10 days

Test and trace will contact you to discuss close contacts

Double vaccinated adults and children under 18 years 6 months do not need to isolate but should take a PCR test as soon as possible and be vigilant for symptoms

No



Inform school as soon as possible

Your child may attend school as normal
Be vigilant for symptoms