

Paston Ridings Primary School
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Headteacher: Mrs J Cook

Deputy Headteacher: Mrs N Harradine
Acting Deputy Headteacher: Miss J Morgan

4th January 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

Happy New Year

Happy New Year from all at Paston Ridings. We hope that you have had a lovely break and are refreshed and ready for the new term. We are looking forward to seeing you all tomorrow (Wednesday 5th January 2022).

COVID Restrictions

As I am sure you are aware the level of COVID in the community is really high and along with the Local Authority we are monitoring the local situation really carefully. We have made the decision that face coverings **must be used in all areas of the school site**, unless you are medically exempt. This includes the outdoor areas and playgrounds.

Please also make sure to distance yourself as much as possible from other families, to try and reduce the risk of transmission.

Positive COVID cases

If a member of your household tests positive for COVID, other adults in the household who are double vaccinated and children, can continue to attend work or school. To reduce this risk, they should take daily lateral flow tests. We have found that children within a household can test positive a few days after the initial positive, so this is a really important measure, which we hope you will support, to keep everyone safe.

The isolation period if you test positive is still 10 days. However, for adults who are double vaccinated and children, this can be reduced to 7 days if 2 negative lateral flow tests are received. The lateral flows should be taken on day 6 and then day 7, if both are negative, then the person can return to work / school from day 8. If they are positive then the full 10 days should be completed. The day 6 and 7 tests are optional, and 10 days isolation can be completed.

We will continue to send out letters if there is a positive case within your child's class. You can then choose to access a PCR for your child or use LFT tests as a precaution.

Please keep us updated of any positive contacts that your child has, so that we can monitor this within school.

The local Authority have produced a helpful Flowchart about testing, which is attached to this email.



Symptomatic Children

If a child is displaying a symptom of COVID-19, we will ask you to arrange for them to have a PCR test. We know that the Omicron variant has different symptoms, much more like a cold, so if your child has other symptoms, which could be covid related eg. Headache, eye disturbances, stomach issues, blocked nose, sore throat we may ask you to complete an LFT as a precaution.

Computer Access and Remote Learning survey

Before the Christmas break, we sent out a survey to families new to school (EYFS parents and other new admissions) to find out if you have access to devices and the internet to support remote learning. This is just so that we are prepared in the event that a school or class closure has to happen. We do have a number of laptops that can be lent to pupils.

Remote learning is always on the school website and will be emailed to you if your child is isolating.

If you have not completed the survey and are new to school this academic year, please complete it as soon as possible. <https://forms.office.com/r/3BCuTqBHti>

Local Authority Vouchers

If you are entitled to benefit related Free School Meals, remember to access your Local Authority food voucher which was sent over Christmas. The Value is £30 per child, so it is well worth accessing.

Once again, we look forward to welcoming all the children back tomorrow.

Kind regards

Mrs Harradine

Deputy Headteacher

