



St Nicholas C.E Primary Academy

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Proud member of the Infinity Academies Trust

"Let your light shine." Matthew 5:14-16



Infinity Academies Trust

Ready to learn, Prepared to flourish.

Thursday 16th December 2021

Covid-19 Updates

Dear Families,

I hope that you are all managing to stay safe and well during this festive build up.

I know there have been so many announcements from the Government recently for you to digest and this has led to some confusion and growing levels of anxiety, so this letter is simply one of reassurance.

I am in daily contact with the Lincolnshire Health Protection Team to discuss our number of Covid-19 positive cases and update them of any changes. During our conversations over the past two weeks, each of the specialist nurses I have consulted with have praised the protective measures we have implemented here in school and although the number of cases is growing, they have been very clear with me that our school is still categorised as having a 'small outbreak'.

The measures we have worked with the Health Protection Team to implement are in-line with the contingency framework which is published on our school website and they include the following:

- No whole school gatherings – Collective Worship is delivered remotely over Teams so that each class can stay in their own classroom
- Classes eat their lunch in 3 sittings (EYFS/ KS1, Y3/4 and Y5/6) with hot lunches provided in the hall and packed lunches taken in classrooms
- Use of CO₂ monitors in every classroom to ensure proper ventilation at all times
- High-level windows are kept open all day and external doors are opened at every break/ lunch time to ensure the air is continually freshened
- All members of the school – children and adults – are washing their hands more regularly with soap and water to avoid dependence on hand-gel
- Additional opportunities for sanitizing hands in-between washing them with soap & water are available throughout the site
- Additional cleaning of high-touch surfaces (handles, flushes on toilets, chairs, table tops etc) throughout the day and after school by our external cleaning team
- Paper towels are used and disposed of in sealed bin bags during the cleaning regime – no cloths are used to ensure cross-contamination is NOT possible between classrooms/ learning spaces
- All adults have been encouraged to wear disposable, medical-grade face masks in indoor communal areas and social distancing is practised where necessary
- Visitors on-site have been reduced to essential visitors only (eg: social care, health care workers, specialist teaching team, Infinity Trust Central Team members, supply teachers)
- The first aid room is being used as a waiting area if any member of our school appears symptomatic so that potential infection can be isolated
- Additional PPE has been purchased and delivered for use as required
- All 'Vulnerable' members of our school family have an individual risk assessment

As you know, measures like these only ever *reduce* risks, there is no way to remove all risk completely.

In addition to this, children who are positive with Covid-19 often do not display any symptoms (asymptomatic) and therefore they continue to come to school not knowing that they may be causing a potential risk to others. That is why it is so important for you to know what measures are in place within school to minimise the risk to our entire community.

We all have people in our personal lives who may be vulnerable and who we want to protect. By following the measures laid out on the previous page, we are ensuring that the health and safety of every member of our community remains our top priority.

This week, the Government changed the **guidance for close contacts** to this:

- ✓ Adults who are fully vaccinated and all children and young people aged between 5 to 18.5 years identified as a close contact of someone who has been confirmed by PRC to be COVID-19 positive, are strongly advised to take a lateral flow device (LFD) test every day for 7 days and **continue to attend their setting as normal, unless they have a positive test result.**
- ✓ Daily testing of close contacts of positive Covid-19 cases will help make education and childcare settings safer so that everyone can continue in face-to-face education.

We will continue to inform you via ScholarPack of confirmed cases so that you can take the appropriate measures for your own child/ family.

Please take comfort from knowing that as always, we will keep you and your children at the heart of every decision we make/ measure we introduce.

If you have any questions or queries, concerns or anxieties, please do not hesitate to get in touch – we will do our very best to help you gain clarity and confidence during these really tricky times.

Yours Sincerely,



Mrs F. Booth
Head Teacher

