



Executive Head Teacher: Andrew Smith B.Ed (Hons), M.Sc, NPQH

Head of School: Nichola Allerston BA (Hons)(QTS), NPQH

Market Rasen Church of England Primary School (VC)

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www.marketrasen.lincs.sch.uk

Learning Together for Life

Monday 3rd January 2022

Dear Parents/Carers

Update for the new school term

We hope you have had a lovely Christmas and New Year with your families and friends. We wanted to communicate with you before we return to school on Tuesday 4th January regarding the current COVID19 situation.

At present, the updated guidance continues with the measures we had in place before the holiday with some changes so we will be continuing to follow the systems of control to help protect the children and adults at school and within the community.

We would like to ask you to continue to support us by adhering to the following:

Keeping Us All Safe

- Drop off and pick up your child at the start / finish time of the school day. Please try to avoid being too early or late
- Only one adult needs to be on site with a child, please only one of you bring your child to school
- Please do not stay in the line with your child – the teachers will be out in the playground from 8.35am so you can leave your child in their class line from this time
- If you choose to wear a mask on site, this will help support keeping everyone safe
- Do not attend the school site if you or anyone in your family is displaying COVID19 symptoms.
- Socially distance when on site from other parents and staff and other people's children where possible
- Once your child is in a line with their teacher you can leave; this reduces the amount of people on our site at any one time.
- Do not come onto the school site if you have tested positive for COVID19.

COVID19 Tests

If your child presents with any of the COVID 19 symptoms (high temperature, new persistent cough or loss of sense of smell or taste) please keep them off school and arrange a test and self-isolate until the results are received.

If your child displays symptoms during the school day, we will contact you to collect them and book a PCR test. You can book a test here: <https://www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test>

Please see the latest guidance regarding testing and isolating:

NHS Test and Trace: what to do if you are contacted <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/nhs-test-and-trace-how-it-works>

Stay at home: guidance for households with possible or confirmed coronavirus (COVID-19) infection <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-stay-at-home-guidance/stay-at-home-guidance-for-households-with-possible-coronavirus-covid-19-infection>

Our Key Values: Caring, Honesty, Commitment to Achieve, Fairness, Co-operation, Respect





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Information on the changes to the self-isolation period for individuals who test positive for COVID-19

Since Wednesday 22 December, the 10 day self-isolation period for people who record a positive PCR test result for COVID-19 has been reduced to 7 days in most circumstances, unless you cannot test for any reason. You may now take LFD tests on day 6 and day 7 of your self-isolation period. If you receive two negative test results, you 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 LFT 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.

Daily testing for close contacts of COVID-19

Adults 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-9, should take an LFT 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.

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 COVID19 they should limit their contact with anyone who is at higher risk of severe illness if infected with COVID19, 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.

Attendance and Lateness

School attendance remains mandatory and all the usual rules continue to apply. Enabling our children to attend school regularly continues to be a national priority. As usual, we are able to grant leaves of absence for children in exceptional circumstances.

Attendance at school is expected unless your child has COVID19 symptoms or is unwell. Please ensure you call the school office each morning that your child is not attending school unless it is Covid related and we know the date to expect your child's return to school.

Myself and Mrs Chaplin are currently working with families regarding attendance and we look forward to our attendance figures continuing to rise this term.

We need you to also ensure your child arrives at school on time and is collected on time at the end of the school day. If this is a problem, please contact us and we can look at how we can support you and your child. Crucial time settling into the school day is lost if your child is not at school ready to begin the day with their peers and this has a negative impact on their learning.

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Remote devices

Thank you for your responses to the Forms regarding if you require a device in the event of returning to remote learning. Please can we ask you to follow the link to complete the Forms if you have not yet had chance. <https://forms.office.com/r/QZJ8juHgv8>

Many responses referred to needing key worker places in the event of school closures. At present, we have no information regarding this and what will happen in the potential event of a school closure. If we receive information, we will contact you to see if you require a school place following the key worker guidance if schools are required to close.

Our priority is for our Federation to remain open and be able to continue with the high-quality education we give our children – nothing is more effective than face to face teaching in the classroom and we hope to avoid class / school closures as much as possible.

If we find ourselves in the situation of needing to move to remote learning for classes or the whole school, we will share updated information with you as soon as we are able to.

As ever, we would like to thank you for your continuing support. Please don't hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.

Kind regards

Nichola Allerston
Acting Executive Headteacher

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