



Homefield Church of England Primary School

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Headteacher's Newsletter

Dear Parents/Carers

The first two weeks of term have passed very quickly, and all the children seemed to have settled back into the school routines. As expected, we have had some confirmed COVID cases, and we are following the guidance around managing COVID in schools. We are continuing to allow classes to mix in the hall and outside but if there are a number of cases in any class then we will limit any contact those children have with other classes until the rate of transmission slows down.

Reverting to closing classes will be a last resort and only done in consultation with the Local Authority's outbreak management team.

I have attached a copy of our contingency plan to show how we will be dealing with COVID during the next few weeks.

After School Activity Clubs

As you are aware we have a number of after school clubs starting next week. If you would like a place for your child then please email the school office as soon as possible. Most clubs are filling up quickly and some already have waiting lists.

Extended School

Just a reminder to book your child in on Parent Mail for Breakfast and After School care clubs at least 2 days in advance. This is to ensure we have the correct staffing ratio for the number of children.

Vacancies in School

We currently have a vacancy for a Caretaker/Cleaner with responsibility for the site and cleaning staff and a vacancy for a part time Higher Level Teaching Assistant to cover classes during PPA cover. The hours for both vacancies will be negotiable. If you are interested in any of the positions, or know anyone who may be, then contact the school office for a job description and application form. The closing date for applications will be midday on Monday 27th September.

Extra-Curricular Music Lessons

We will be starting the extra-curricular music lessons over the next couple of weeks. If you would like your child to learn to play the piano, guitar or drum kit then please contact the school office. If your child was already having the lessons then we will be in contact with you to see if you wish them to continue.

Thank you for your cooperation and take care
Elaine Glendinning
Headteacher

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Covid Outbreak Contingency Plan – Sept. 2021

| | |
|--|---|
| <p>When should my child self-isolate or miss school?</p>  |  <p>NO</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All children MUST attend school unless they are ill. • From 16th August 2021, children under 18 (or double-vaccinated adults) do not need to self-isolate or miss school if a member of their household or a contact, has Covid. • Instead, they will need to book a PRC test but can continue coming to school so long as they have no symptoms and the test result is negative. |
| |  <p>YES</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If your child develops Covid symptoms at home, they should <u>stay at home</u> and should book a PRC test), <u>NOT</u> a Lateral Flow test. • If your child develops Covid symptoms at school, they will be sent home and you should book them a PRC test. • If your child tests positive for Covid, they will need to self-isolate. The rest of the household does not need to self-isolate if they are under 18 or fully vaccinated – but instead should book a PCR test. |

| Community Covid Risk | Description | Actions |
|--|--|---|
|  <p>Low Community Transmission. No School Cases.</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There have been no cases of Covid within school for 10 school days. • Cases of Covid locally are low and/ or stable. • Hospitalisation/ Deaths due to Covid nationally are low. | <p>No Covid measures are necessary beyond:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reminding children of good hand-hygiene. • Ensuring good ventilation encouraged where practical. • Ensuring Children / Staff to stay at home if they have Covid Symptoms (and to book a PCR test). <p>Staff will continue to test themselves using Lateral flow tests until the end of September.</p> |
|  <p>Rapidly Rising Community Transmission</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No current Covid cases have been recorded at school, but... • Cases of Covid are rising rapidly in the community causing disruption to other local schools. • Norfolk Outbreak Management Team / Public Health England | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ventilation of classrooms increased & hand-washing supervised. • Large indoor public performance audience numbers reduced. • Staff-room capacity is reduced. • School assemblies are replaced with year group assemblies. • Clinically Vulnerable staff meet with Line-Managers to review their individual risk assessment & discuss additional protection. |

issue warnings of expected local/national infection wave.

Number of Cases:

Description:

Actions:



A single child tests Positive

- A single child tests positive for Covid in a class.
- There are fewer than 5 cases in the year group.
- No other year groups are affected.
- The child self-isolates for 10 days. Remote learning will be provided if they are well enough to complete it.
- The parents of the child are contacted directly by NHS Track and Trace to establish likely contacts.
- Likely contacts will be contacted by NHS Track & Trace and advised to book at PRC Test. The school will contact parents to advise this if close contacts are known.
- **Children do not need to miss school or self-isolate whilst they wait for the result of the PRC test unless they have Covid Symptoms.**



5 children or staff within a year group test positive within 10 days of each other.

- There have been 5 cases of Covid across a year group within 10 days which could mean that Covid is spreading within that group of children.
- **As above for each positive case.**
- The school will discuss the outbreak with Norfolk Outbreak Management and agree strengthening protective measures for 10 school days, including:
 - Re-introducing staff face masks for corridors & communal areas.
 - Adapting, Limiting or postponing indoor sporting events, trips, open days and performances.
 - Reverting to assemblies in classrooms.
 - Reducing the amount of classes staff work across.
 - Resuming twice-weekly Staff Lateral flow testing



Covid cases continue to increase rapidly within a 10 day period.

- Despite the measures indicated above, Covid cases within the school continue to rise within a 10 day period with multiple classes and staff affected, suggesting that Covid is spreading widely throughout the school.
- Incident Management Team meeting held between the school and Norfolk outbreak Management Team to agree further measures, for a further 10 school days, including:
 - Re-introducing class bubbles.
 - Reverting to class-based school lunches for KS2.
 - Limiting all non-essential visitors to school.
 - Postponing all non-essential events.
 - **Re-introducing remote learning for individual classes for 10 school days considered.**

The school will inform parents of any changes to Covid measures should these be needed.