



16<sup>th</sup> September 2021

Dear Parents,

Due to an increased number of positive COVID cases within school, from today, we will be reverting back to our smaller bubble system.

**The school and all classes remain open and your child should continue to attend as normal if they remain well. Please be reassured that for most people, coronavirus (COVID-19) will be a mild illness.**

Our bubbles will be:  
Butterflies/Bluebells  
Dragonflies / Fireflies  
Class 1H / Class 1L  
Class 2S / Class 3L  
Class 3S  
Class 4L  
Class 5H / Class 5E  
Class 6I / Class 6G

Children from Year 2 – Year 6 will eat lunch in their own classrooms and they will be socially distanced from other bubbles at all times. This is with the exception of children who take part in Read, Write, Inc as these children are split into small groups for this session only. We will keep a close eye on this and review it if there is a report of any positive cases within these groups.

### **Face Masks and Social Distancing on the School Yard**

Face masks must now be worn on the school yard by all parents and staff until further notice. Please can we also ask that parents socially distance from one another. This is to help prevent the spread of infection further and protect our school community.

### **Visitors into School**

For a short time, we will not be allowing parents into school except if it is to attend a pre-organised meeting that would be difficult. Please can we advise parents that if they need to contact the school office or your child's class teacher that you do this via telephone or class email.

### **Self-Isolation**

If your child is required to self-isolate due to testing positive and they are well enough, please contact school and we will arrange for a work pack for them.

### **Staff Lateral Flow Testing**

All staff have been advised to carry out daily LFTs for the next 7 days. We will then review this.

### **After School Sports Clubs**

Unfortunately, in the short term, we are having to make some changes to the after-school sports clubs. The changes are as follows:

Monday Brain Honour Football – Year 6 only

Tuesday Brain Honour Football – Year 5 only

Wednesday Tag Rugby – Year 6 only

I do apologise for those children who are missing out. This will hopefully only be for a few weeks and then we will get back to normal. If it is not possible to mix bubbles after this time, we will look at the possibility of putting some extra sessions on.

I would like to thank you all for your continued support during this difficult time. I will keep you updated when we are able to return to 'normal'.

Yours faithfully.

Mrs R. Leonard

Acting Head Teacher

## How to stop coronavirus (COVID-19) spreading

There are things you can do to help reduce the risk of you and anyone you live with getting ill with coronavirus (COVID-19):

get vaccinated – everyone aged 16 and over can [book COVID-19 vaccination appointments](#) now

wash your hands with soap and water or use hand sanitiser regularly throughout the day

cover your mouth and nose with a tissue or your sleeve (not your hands) when you cough or sneeze

put used tissues in the bin immediately and wash your hands afterwards

meet people outside and avoid crowded areas

open doors and windows to let in fresh air if meeting people inside

wear a face covering when it's hard to stay away from other people – particularly indoors or in crowded places

participate in twice weekly LFD testing following national guidelines (recommended for 11 years and over). We encourage you to log your results here:

<https://www.gov.uk/log-test-site-covid19-results>

## What to do if your child develops symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19) or tests positive for COVID-19?

The most common symptoms of COVID-19 are recent onset of:

new continuous cough and/or

high temperature and/or

a loss of, or change in, normal sense of taste or smell (anosmia)

If your child does develop symptoms, they should get a PCR test and remain at home at least until the result is known. [Get a free PCR test to check if you have coronavirus \(COVID-19\) - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#). If positive, the child should isolate until at least 10 days after their symptoms appeared.

If you are concerned about your child's symptoms, you can seek advice from NHS 111 at <https://111.nhs.uk/> or by phoning 111.

If your child has a positive test result but does not have symptoms they should stay at home and self-isolate for 10 days from the date the positive test was taken. This isolation period will be extended if they go on to develop symptoms by counting 10 full days from the day following their symptom onset

## Instructions for people who live in the same household as someone with COVID-19

From 16 August, [you will not be required to self-isolate if you are a contact of someone who has tested positive for COVID-19](#) and any of the following apply:

you are fully vaccinated (with an MHRA approved COVID-19 vaccine in the UK, and at least 14 days have passed since you received the vaccine.

you are below the age of 18 years 6 months

you have taken part in or are currently part of an approved COVID-19 vaccine trial

you are not able to get vaccinated for medical reasons

NHS Test and Trace will contact you to let you know that you have been identified as a contact and check whether you are legally required to self-isolate. Even if you do not have symptoms, [you will be advised to have a PCR test as soon as possible](#).

Even if you are vaccinated, you can still be infected with COVID-19 and pass it on to others. If you are identified as a contact of someone with COVID-19 but you are not required to self-isolate, you can help protect others by  
limiting close contact with other people outside your household, especially in enclosed spaces  
wearing a face covering in enclosed spaces and where you are unable to maintain social distancing  
limiting contact with anyone who is clinically extremely vulnerable  
taking part in [regular LFD testing](#)

You should follow this advice while the person in your household with COVID-19 is self-isolating. Those who are [clinically extremely vulnerable](#) should be supported to minimise their contact with other people in the household during this period, regardless of whether others have symptoms or not.

You may be eligible for a Test and Trace Support Payment, for more information please see: [www.gov.uk/test-and-trace-support-payment](http://www.gov.uk/test-and-trace-support-payment)

### **Help, support, and further information.**

To help you comply with the requirement to self-isolate, the County Durham Together Community Hub can provide access to essential supplies, financial support and emotional support as well as other services. Please visit [durham.gov.uk/covid19help](http://durham.gov.uk/covid19help) or call the Community Hub on 03000 260260 for further details.

There is also support available the coronavirus section via [durhamlocate.org.uk](http://durhamlocate.org.uk)

### **Useful Websites**

[www.gov.uk/coronavirus](http://www.gov.uk/coronavirus)

[www.nhs.uk/coronavirus](http://www.nhs.uk/coronavirus)

[www.durham.gov.uk/coronavirus](http://www.durham.gov.uk/coronavirus)

[www.durham.gov.uk/covid19help](http://www.durham.gov.uk/covid19help)

[www.durhamlocate.org.uk](http://www.durhamlocate.org.uk)