



Leigh and Bransford Primary School

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Tuesday, 4th January 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

On Sunday 2nd January the government released updates to the guidance for schools during the COVID-19 pandemic. All schools must ensure they are continuing to take appropriate actions to keep their staff and pupils safe as part of the local and national response to the COVID-19 pandemic. However there are no significant changes to the guidance for primary aged children.

As a result of this guidance, and with advice from the local authority, we will be continuing to operate under the same risk assessment which has been in place since September.

We will continue to follow government guidance at a national and local level as it is updated. We will ensure that all of the current hygiene and distancing measures currently in place are maintained in order to continue to safeguard our community's health and wellbeing.

In order to minimise the number of adults entering the school building we will continue to expect parents to contact the school office by phone or email where possible and direct queries to teachers via Class Dojo. **Please only come to the school office when absolutely necessary and please wear a facemask when entering the building.** If you have a meeting in school we will ask you to wear a mask (unless exempt) and school staff will mask too.

We will continue to implement the following safety measures in school in line with the most recent government guidance:

Equipment in school

1. Children must not bring in any toys or other items into school.

Hygiene and Cleaning

1. Children will be asked to wash their hands on entry to school, after playtime, before eating, after sneezing or coughing, and regularly throughout the day. Younger children will be supervised.
2. Hand sanitising stations will continue to be used in all classrooms.
3. Tissues will be provided in all classrooms and lidded bins emptied regularly.
4. All indoor spaces will be well ventilated.
5. School staff will use antibacterial spray to clean key areas throughout the day.

Illness in school

The DfE Schools COVID-19 operational guidance July 2021 states:

Pupils, staff and other adults must continue to follow public health advice on when to self-isolate. They should not come into school if they have symptoms, have had a positive test result, or any other reason requiring them to isolate.

The guidance on self-isolation has been updated for January 2022 please read the following carefully:

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.

Individuals may now take LFD tests on day 6 and day 7 of their self-isolation period. Those who receive two negative test results 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 LFD 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.

People 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-19, should take an LFD 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.

1. If a child displays any symptoms of Coronavirus in school, parents will be contacted immediately and asked to collect their child. Children will be isolated but supported by an adult until collected.
2. Children will be asked to take a PCR test before they can return to school. **A negative LFD test will need to be confirmed by a PCR test.**
3. If your child has a positive PCR result you will need to contact NHS test and trace who will trace close contacts. The school will work with NHS test and trace where needed to identify any close contacts in school to ensure NHS test and trace can advise them to isolate.
4. If a PCR test result is negative, then the child may return to school.

The Curriculum

- The curriculum will continue to be broad and balanced.
- If your child does need to isolate but is not unwell they will be provided with a home learning by their class teacher.
- After school clubs will continue to take place this half term.
- Trips and visits will only take place if this can be done safely and within DFE

guidance.

Morning and After School Club will continue as normal with the usual booking arrangements. Morning Club will be running from tomorrow morning.

We are all looking forward to welcoming your children back to school to continue their learning in 2022 and will keep these measures under constant review in response to changing levels of COVID-19 nationally and locally.

Yours sincerely,

Mr S Bill

(Headteacher)