



George Spicer Primary School

Early Years/KS1 – Kimberley Gardens, Enfield, EN1 3SN
KS2 – Southbury Road, Enfield, EN1 1YF

Telephone: 020 8363 1406

Email - office@georgespicer.enfield.sch.uk Website - www.georgespicer.enfield.sch.uk Twitter: @GeorgespicerP

Monday 3rd January 2022

COVID19 Procedures Clarification

Dear Parents/Carers

Forget Christmas or New Years, this all feels very much like Groundhog Day! Never mind, our value for this half term is **determination**, and I feel it is a wise choice. For the most part, school will run the same as it did at the end of the Autumn Term.

I hope that whatever the circumstances you all managed to enjoy some festive fun with your families.

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

Since Wednesday 22nd 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 school from day 8.

Anyone who is unable to take LFD tests will need to complete the full 10 day period of self-isolation. Further information is available in the [stay at home: guidance for households with possible or confirmed COVID-19 infection](#).

Daily testing for close contacts of COVID-19

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.**

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 COVID-19 they should limit their contact with anyone who is at higher risk of severe illness if infected with COVID-19, 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. If the test is positive, they should follow the [stay at home: guidance for households with possible or confirmed COVID-19 infection](#).

Daily testing for contacts of COVID-19 will help protect schools by reducing transmission and will also help keep pupils in face-to-face education.

Once notified by NHS Test and Trace as a close contact, all pupils should take an LFD each day for 7 days and report the results through the [Online Reporting System](#).



If any of the tests are positive, that person should self-isolate and [order a PCR test](#) to confirm the result. If the PCR is positive, they must self-isolate for 10 days – potentially being released with 2 negative LFD tests as explained earlier. **If the PCR test is negative, they no longer need to self-isolate but should continue to carry out the remainder of the daily tests, and only need to isolate if it is positive.**

For primary aged children [LFD test kits are available through the usual routes](#) (community test sites, local pharmacies or online).

I hope that this gives you all a clear understanding of the procedures that we are continuing to work with. We are doing our best to keep school open for face-to-face learning but that will prove more challenging should positive cases rise within the staff due to a lack of supply or temporary staff to ensure safe staff to pupil ratios.

You can support us by remaining vigilant and not sending your children into school whilst displaying any symptoms:

- a high temperature
- a new, continuous cough
- a loss or change to your sense of smell or taste

Face Coverings

I am happy for children to wear face coverings if you as parents feel more safe by them doing so. All staff will be wearing them in communal areas. However, the responsibility in making sure that the children know not to fiddle with or play around with them during lessons and learning time rests with the parents choosing to send their children in with face coverings. The staff will remind them once and then if any distraction continues they will ask the child to remove the face covering. The nature of some learning sessions will mean the children cannot wear them for that particular session.

I will regularly review all procedures and the risk assessments in line with local, government and public health advice. A new year means a new chapter. I hope 2022 is an incredible part of you and your family's story.

Many thanks for your continued understanding and support.

Kind regards



Mr D Spong
Headteacher

"Your present circumstances don't determine where you can go. They merely determine where you start."
Nido Qubein

"In order to be successful in the new year, stay focused, develop a positive attitude and be passionate with your dreams." **Bamigboye Olurotimi**

