

Executive Headteacher Mrs Christabel Shepherd Head of School Stephanie Ngenda

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Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> January 2022

## COVID-19 Updates

Dear Parents / Carers,

Welcome back and Happy New Year! Our first few days have been an incredibly positive start and it has been a pleasure to see the children after the Christmas break.

I wanted to write and update you on government guidance and to advise of measures currently in place in school to prevent the spread of COVID-19.

Rest assured that we're doing everything we can to make sure our pupils can return to school safely. We'll be taking the following protective measures to keep everyone safe:

## Safety measures

- Asking that anyone who is displaying coronavirus symptoms (a cough, a high temperature or loss of smell of taste or smell) does not attend the setting. That includes children and staff who work here
- Asking all parents and carers to ensure they organise a PCR test for their child, in the event that they develop coronavirus symptoms, and notify us immediately of a positive test
- Cleaning our hands more often than usual. We have developed routines to ensure children understand when and how to wash their hands, making sure they wash them thoroughly for at least 20 seconds using running water and soap and dry them thoroughly, or use alcohol hand rub or sanitiser ensuring that all parts of the hands are covered
- Ensuring our children understand good respiratory hygiene by promoting the 'catch it, bin it, kill it' approach and ensuring a good supply of tissues and bins throughout the setting
- Ensuring adequate ventilation throughout school, opening windows where possible
- Implementing an enhanced cleaning schedule, ensuring surfaces touched by children and staff are cleaned regularly and throughout the day, including table tops, door handles and play equipment
- If school receive notification of a positive case of Covid, all close contacts who are aged 5 or above are required to take a Lateral Flow test every day for 7 days
- If a child in school tests positive for Covid, we will notify <u>all pupils in their class/set</u> via text and Class Dojo
- In line with new guidance, all children from Reception through to Year 6 must take a Lateral Flow Test (the ones you can do at home) every day for the next 7 days if they are a close contact with a positive case.



















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- Although not all children in Reception are 5 years old, we will still notify all children in the class. It is then parent choice as to whether or not you test your 4-year-old child
- Saplings and Nursery children will not be notified if there is a positive case in their class as they are under 5
- Children who are identified as a close contact and are therefore taking a Lateral Flow Test (the ones you can do at home) every day for 7 days, must <u>still attend school as normal if</u> <u>their daily LFT result is negative</u>. If your child starts to present with symptoms of Covid i.e. a cough, temperature or they describe a change in taste or smell, you <u>must</u> take them for a PCR test at a test centre and keep your child at home until you have the result. If the PCR result is negative, they can come back into school, if the PCR result is positive, they must stay at home and isolate as instructed
- If a member of your household presents with symptoms and tests positive for Covid, all household members over the age of 5 must take a Lateral Flow Test every day for the next 7 days. Lateral Flow Tests can be obtained from pharmacies or online via the following link <u>https://www.gov.uk/order-coronavirus-rapid-lateral-flow-tests</u>
- School will not be providing tests for pupils, however if you are struggling to obtain them, please speak to a member of the school office team who will be able to support you

We'll continue to keep in touch if we update our plans or if we need to make changes due to new government guidance.

Thank you for your continued support.

Yours faithfully

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Stephanie Ngenda Head of School











Stonewall SCHOOL CHAMPIONS





