

COVID UPDATE

September 24th 2021

Dear Parents/Carers,

It has been wonderful having the children back! We have loved hearing them laughing and playing together and there's a great buzz of learning in every class.

As you know, following the change in guidelines from August 16th, children under 18 years and 6 months and adults who have been double vaccinated for over 14 days since last exposure to a confirmed case no longer need to isolate if they have been identified as a close contact with someone who has tested positive for Covid-19.

Anyone adult who has not received both doses of the vaccination will be contacted by NHS Test and Trace required to isolate and asked to take a laboratory confirmed PCR test.

If your child tests positive on a PCR test you must let us know by either emailing/or phoning the school. Your child must then isolate at home.




The current advice from Public Health is changing in response to the evolving situation therefore I am wanting to provide some further clarity. One of the changes is that we will no longer inform you of single confirmed cases on Covid-19. **Instead we will inform all parents when a government defined 'threshold' has been reached or if there is another reason that we need to communicate with all parents.** These letters will be written in conjunction with South Gloucestershire Public Health and are called '**Warn and Inform**' letters. We will also communicate to you any changes that will need to be made within school to manage any potential transmission in line with our 'Outbreak Management Plan.'

A threshold is defined by the government as:

- 5 children, pupils, students or staff, who are likely to have mixed closely, test positive for COVID-19 within a 10-day period; or
- 10% of children, pupils, students or staff who are likely to have mixed closely, test positive for COVID-19 within a 10-day period

I understand that this new way of communicating COVID cases within school may make you feel nervous, but please be reassured we are following advice from Public Health and using the government's new guidance to manage COVID within school. If we need you to take action, we will inform you.

When does my child need to stay away from school?

<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 PCR 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 PCR test), NOT a Lateral Flow test.• If your child develops Covid symptoms at school, they will be sent home and you should book them a PCR 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.

Thank-you for your ongoing support working with us to keep our community as safe as possible,

Best wishes
Helen Green

Headteacher