

# St. Werburgh's Church of England (Voluntary Aided) Primary School



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**DDAT**  
Derby Diocesan Academy Trust



Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> January 2022

Re: New Covid-19 Guidance

Dear parents and carers,

Happy New Year to you all, and I hope you had a restful Christmas break. We are looking forward to welcoming children back to school tomorrow morning, for what is optimistically called the spring term! Teachers have some fantastic learning planned for our children who I know will be looking forward to working hard and catching up with school friends. I'm writing to summarise what the recent changes in government advice will mean for St Werburgh's in the weeks ahead.

## Daily Routines

- Please continue to arrive and pick up at our usual times. School starts at 08:55 and finishes at 15:20.
- Please keep a safe distance from other families when dropping off and picking up.
- Please telephone or email with any queries or information wherever possible. The admin@ email above is monitored throughout the school day.
- If you do need to enter the school building, please wear a face covering. We also ask that adults take a LFD test on the morning of your visit.
- Please do not enter the school site if you have symptoms of covid.

## Isolation and Testing

- **Children with positive family members:** Children should take a daily LFD test and can attend school if this is negative and they have no symptoms. This should be before they leave the house each morning for 7 days from the family member testing positive.
- The self-isolation advice for people with coronavirus has changed. It is now possible to end self-isolation after 7 days, following 2 negative LFD tests taken 24 hours apart. The first LFD test should not be taken before the sixth day.
- Staff will continue to test twice weekly using lateral flow device (LFD) tests, and we encourage all parents and carers to do this too.
- From 11th January in England, people who receive positive lateral flow results for COVID-19 will be required to self-isolate immediately and won't be required to take a confirmatory PCR test. This is a temporary measure while COVID-19 rates remain high across the UK.
- Under this new approach, anyone who receives a positive lateral flow device (LFD) test result should report their result on [gov.uk](https://www.gov.uk) and must self-isolate immediately but will not need to take a follow-up PCR test.



- Anyone with symptoms, including close contacts who develop symptoms, must still take a PCR test and isolate until they get their result. If positive they must continue to isolate for 10 days, or 7 days if they test negative on LFT on day 6 and 7 (24 hours apart):
- Adults who are fully vaccinated and all children and young people aged between 5 and 18 years and 6 months identified as a contact of someone with COVID-19 are strongly advised to take a LFD test every day for 7 days.
- Children under 5 years are exempt from self-isolation and do not need to take part in daily testing of close contacts.

### **Face Coverings**

- In primary schools, face coverings should be worn by staff, adults, and those aged over 11 (including visitors) when moving around in corridors and communal areas. Health advice continues to be that children in primary schools should not be asked to wear face coverings.

### **Vaccines**

We encourage all eligible members of our community to take up the offer of the vaccine, including boosters. Vaccines help protect young people and adults, and benefit those around them. Vaccination makes people less likely to catch the virus and less likely to pass it on.

To book a vaccination visit: <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/coronavirus-vaccination/book-coronavirus-vaccination/>

### **Risk Assessments and Control Measures**

- We continue to regularly review and update our risk assessments as the circumstances in school and the public health advice changes.
- We continue to ensure good hygiene for everyone, maintain appropriate cleaning regimes, keep occupied spaces well ventilated, and follow public health advice on testing and managing confirmed cases of COVID-19.
- We will not be gathering as a whole school indoors this term.
- We continue to follow all government and local health advice about signs and symptoms, isolation advice and testing, to support prompt isolation of suspected cases.

Some members of our staff have been impacted by the new wave of infections, and there will be unavoidable changes in many classes in the weeks ahead. Please be reassured that we have a strong team who know children well, and we will continue to do our utmost to ensure that children's learning can continue uninterrupted at St Werburgh's.

Please check that you have the log in details saved for your child's Google Classroom account in case they have to isolate. Please do not hesitate to ring or email if you have any questions, and please continue to notify us if your child will be absent for any reason.

Warm regards,

Mrs Dean