

Outwood Primary Academy Newstead Green

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Chief Executive Principal, Primary: Mr Lee Wilson Principal: Mrs Lindsey Corbett

3rd January 2022

Dear Parents/ Carers

We hope you have had a lovely Christmas and happy New Year and have enjoyed spending some much needed time with your friends and families, as much as possible. I wanted to write to you with a few reminders and updates for the new term ahead.

Covid-19 Updates

At the end of last term we did not have any known cases of Covid-19 within our school community but as we know with the new variant 'Omicron' we need to ensure we are keeping ourselves and others as safe as possible to ensure the impact on our school community is minimised.

Following the Christmas break we will be impacted by both staff and pupil absence. I will try to keep face to face learning in place unless remote learning is needed as last resort. We all need to be vigilant regarding any symptoms and positive test results. Please see the updated guidance below:

- Can we ensure we maintain our distance while on school premises as much as possible. This means avoiding waiting for longer than necessary.
- We ask that all adults and children over 12 years please wear a face mask while on site.
- We ask that you and your families take regular Lateral Flow Tests to identify cases of Covid-19 and therefore limit the spread.
- We ask you to be vigilant with symptoms and if in doubt take a test to rule it out. If everyone
 took an LFD test before the return to school this would greatly reduce the number of
 asymptomatic cases in school.
- Please ring the school office to let us know of any symptomatic or positive cases.

As you will be aware, there is a change to close contact guidance. From now on all adults who are fully vaccinated and children aged 5 to 18 years and 6 months, identified as a contact of someone with Covid-19 – whether Omicron or not – should take a lateral flow device (LFD) test every day for 7 days instead of self-isolating.

- Once notified by NHS Test and Trace as a close contact, all eligible staff, pupils and students should: Take an LFD each day for 7 days and report the results through the Online Reporting System and to their school.
- If they test negative, they can continue to attend school.
- If they test positive, they should self-isolate and order a PCR test to confirm the result. If the PCR is positive, they must self-isolate for 10 days unless you test negative on an LFT on day 6 and 7 your isolation period can end on day 7.
- 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.

- Outside of school, you should continue to follow the advice set out in the 30th December updates <u>Covid-19 guidance</u>.
- Anyone over the age of 18 years and 6 months who is not vaccinated, must isolate in line with government guidelines if they are a close contact of a positive case.

Staffing Changes for the new year

Mrs Turner will be joining us in January from Outwood Primary Academy Littleworth Grange as a higher level teaching assistant.

Unfortunately, due illness Mrs Stacey is still not ready to return in the new year. Mr Barr and Mr Emmerson have done a fantastic job of looking after Y4 in her absence so far but for the next half term we have a fantastic new teacher joining us in year 4, **Mrs Mayes**. The children have met her several times already and I know she will do an incredible job of teaching Year 4 until Mrs Stacey's return.

Mrs Mayes

Mrs Turner

Uniform reminders

Primary Uniform

The primary school uniform consists of the below, and must not be altered in a way that changes the style of the item.

- Purple sweatshirt or cardigan, with school logo
- White polo shirt
- Grey skirt, trousers or school shorts
- Grey socks or tights
- Black shoes

Shoe Policy

Only plain black shoes are allowed to be worn with the uniform. The shoes should be free from embellishments and decorations. No trainer-like shoes, boots, pumps or canvas shoes (including 'Vans') will be allowed. Heels should be no higher than 2.5cm/I inch.





School reopens on Tuesday 4th January at 8.45am. We look forward to seeing you all in the morning!

Yours sincerely

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Lindsey Corbett Principal