



14th September 2021

Dear Parent/Carer,

COVID-19 Weekly Testing



As you may already be aware, there has been an increase in positive COVID-19 cases in Staffordshire Moorlands. The Local Outbreak Team for Staffordshire has also shared recent data showing an increase in the amount of positive COVID-19 cases amongst 5 - 10 year olds, especially since we have now returned to school.

As a result, we would like to encourage families and households to test themselves twice every week at home. Anyone in your household that is 11 years and over are eligible to participate in weekly testing by ordering free Rapid Lateral Flow Tests from NHS direct. Please follow to link below if you would like to order these:

<https://www.gov.uk/order-coronavirus-rapid-lateral-flow-tests>

PCR Testing & COVID-19 Symptoms (including Delta Variant)



If your child has one or more of the below COVID-19 symptoms, (these include the additional symptoms of the Delta Variant), they will be required to remain at home and book a PCR test:

- ✓ Cough
- ✓ Temperature
- ✓ Loss of taste and/or smell
- ✓ Headache
- ✓ Sore Throat
- ✓ Runny Nose

It is vitally important that a PCR test is arranged and not a Rapid Lateral Flow test. The PCR test picks up the new COVID-19 variant a lot quicker and Rapid Lateral Flow tests should only be used for asymptomatic testing (testing for people who do not have symptoms)

PCR tests can be conducted at a drive through site or ordered through the post. Please click the link below should you need to book a PCR for your child.

<https://www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test>

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Booking on-line is the best way to book a test and the quickest way to be tested and receive your results back. If you are advised by school to book a PCR test and your child does not have symptoms you will need to select one of the following when booking a PCR test on line.

- I've been told to get a test by my nursery, work or place of education
- I've been told to get a test by my local council, health protection team or healthcare professional

Reception Class Photograph (PERMISSION REQUIRED)



The Chronicle Newspaper are coming into school on Monday 11th October 2021 to take a photograph of the Reception class, this will then be printed in the newspaper. If your child is in Reception and you wish for them to participate in this, please provide permission by clicking the link below and submitting your consent.

https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=6MDVPap5rEuvvzQTS__LbJVLTFKwMwRDlpwA_fXrbltUNihKQ1VHMUFDT09FWTFTVKZWUJLREFLUC4u

PLEASE NOTE: IF PERMISSION IS NOT PROVIDED, YOUR CHILD WILL NOT BE INCLUDED IN THE PHOTOGRAPH.

Data Collection Sheets



It is that time of year when we require you to complete the annual data collection sheets. Paper copies of the data collection sheet will be sent home. Please can these be returned to school no later than Friday 24th September 2021. **Please ensure that we have at least 2 contacts for emergencies and safeguarding purposes.**

Privacy Notice



The school Privacy Notice has been updated please see a copy of this on the school website and attached to this email.

Scooters/Bikes

When children bring scooters/bikes onto the school grounds, please can parents ensure that they are supervised appropriately to ensure the safety of others. Please ensure that scooters/bikes are parked by the 'parent's notice board' next to the small gate as you enter the pathway up to the main schoolyard. Children should not be riding scooters or bikes

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onto the main schoolyard. We are currently looking into raising funds for a scooter or bike park to support and encourage those who wish to travel to school by scooter or bike safely.

Physical Education Reminder



Please be reminded below of the days that your child has PE. Children are required to come to school in their PE kit on these days. For safety reasons the wearing of jewelry including earrings, is not permitted for any PE activities. Please ensure that your child does not come to school in their earrings on their PE day or is able to take their own earrings out safely.

CLASS	PE DAY	Fitness Friday
Reception	Friday	
Year 1/2 Leonis	Thursday	Friday
Year 2/3 Perseus	Wednesday	Friday
Year 3/4 Draco	Tuesday	Friday

Children are required to come to school wearing their PE kit on the day they have PE. All learners participate in Fitness Friday every week.

Google Classroom



Google Classroom

All home learning, spelling and daily reading diaries are available on google classrooms. Please ensure you submit your reading diary at the end of each week. If you are struggling to access Google Classroom, please speak to the school office who will support you with this. Passwords for all learning platforms will be sent home for you to keep.

Early Years



If you have a child in our Nursery setting, please ensure that you provide school with a spare change of clothes. Thank you to those parents who have already done this.

Items Labelled



Just a gentle reminder to ensure all items of clothes, any accessories and water bottle are clearly labelled with your child's name. Please also remember as a 'Healthy School' that we encourage children to bring water to school, rather than juice, which can be refilled throughout the day. Thank you for your continued support.

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Vacant Seat Scheme on School Buses



We have been made aware that concerns have been raised regarding the impact of Staffordshire County Council's proposed cancellation of the Temporary Vacant Seat Scheme on School buses. This will have an impact upon students and parents now and in the future. This will affect anyone who does not qualify for free school transport and intends to use a school bus now or in the future and affects all students when they reach 16.

We have been asked to share this information with parents to raise awareness and to gain as much support in completing the survey linked below.

- The Rural Transport Action Group

PROPOSED CANCELLATION OF THE SCHOOL TRANSPORT VACANT SEAT SCHEME

The vacant seat scheme allows parents to purchase a seat on a school bus for those not eligible for free transport, out of catchment or over 16. ALL students over 16 do not qualify for free travel and will need to use this scheme.

Even if you do not currently use the Temporary Vacant Seat Scheme you may need it in the future. Please take the opportunity to complete the short survey below for now and future generations, by either clicking or copying and pasting the link into your browser.

https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=TdGsJLuS1kS7qO2z0DgTzQRheX-UskdNoi7nzHHJNWNUNVRLMjVMS0pKNVQzMjEjEVOMwV1owV1IDWS4u&fbclid=IwAR25b0ERYIT4hvgwQHeSM0Spqgx30W3_-iT1UN6nBUi1hfpb_EOMITM8w-U

COVID-19 Risk Assessment



We have once again updated our COVID-19 Risk Assessment, which can be found on our school website and by clicking on the link below. Please note that it details the 'protective' measures that are currently in place and additional measures that would be considered following advice from the Local Outbreak Team should we have any confirmed positive cases of COVID-19 in school or an Outbreak.

<https://primarysite-prod-sorted.s3.amazonaws.com/squirrel/UploadedDocument/28e9ec6f-dec5-45e8-becb-bb21c4274420/covid-19-risk-assesment-september-2021-v4.pdf>

If you have any questions or queries about anything in this newsletter, please do not hesitate to ask, Take care and stay safe,

Mrs. E. J. Pickford (Headteacher) & Team

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ASPIRE BELIEVE ACHIEVE



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**BIDDULPH SCHOOLS
PARTNERSHIP TRUST**
(a mutual co-operative membership trust)

