



5th January 2022

Welcome back!

Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been lovely to welcome our pupils back to school today after the Christmas break. They have settled back into their learning quickly and we have seen many smiling faces both in class and on the playground.

We have an exciting term ahead with lots of new learning in all classes. Our pupils are showing real engagement in lessons and are developing some excellent attitudes to learning that will hopefully stay with them for life. The children are becoming much more confident in using technology and this will support them if they need to isolate at home. If your child does need to stay at home, but can still complete work, we will provide learning for them. Our guidance can be found on our website.

Our building work is making good progress – we will send some photos to you soon. We cannot wait to be able to use the new studio in a few weeks' time!!

COVID Updates

We continue to follow our COVID risk assessment and will be ensuring that rooms are well ventilated – please ensure that you **child comes to school in warm clothing** as windows will be kept open! Children are expected to wash their hands regularly and to sanitise and we have additional cleaning in place throughout the day. Please make sure children are not sent to school if they have any COVID symptoms, even if they are mild:

- a high temperature
- a new, continuous cough
- a loss or change to your sense of smell or taste

If your child tests positive for COVID they will need to isolate for 10 days. *Individuals may now take LFD tests on day 6 and day 7 of their self-isolation period. Those who receive two negative test results are no longer required to complete 10 full days of self-isolation. The first test must be taken no earlier than day 6 of the self-isolation period and tests must be taken 24 hours apart. This also applies to children under 5, with LFD testing at parental or guardian discretion. If both these test results are negative, and you do not have a high temperature, you may end your self-isolation after the second negative test result and return to your education or childcare setting from day 7.*

If you live with or have been **in contact** with someone with COVID-19, you will not need to self-isolate if any of the following apply:

- you're fully vaccinated – this means 14 days have passed since your final dose of an approved COVID-19 vaccine
- you're under 18 years and 6 months old
- you're taking part or have taken part in an approved COVID-19 vaccine trial
- you're not able to get vaccinated for medical reasons

Even if you do not have symptoms, you're strongly advised to:

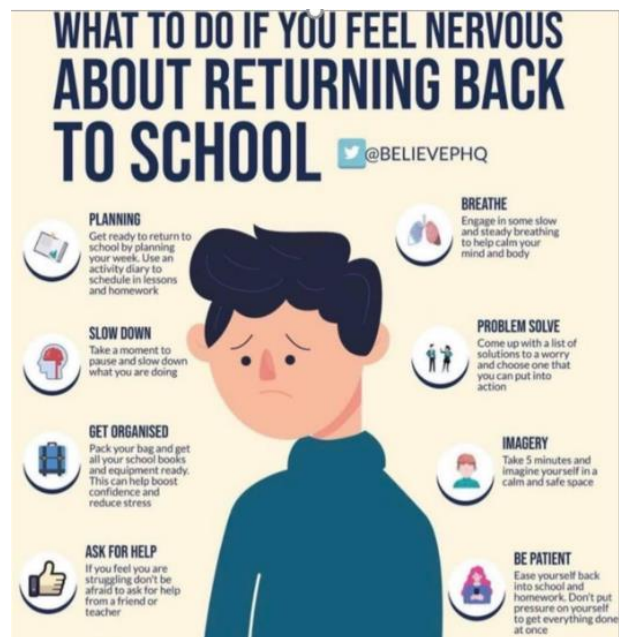
- do daily rapid lateral flow tests (1 a day for 7 days), if you're fully vaccinated, to protect yourself and others from COVID-19
- follow advice on how to avoid catching and spreading COVID-19
- consider limiting contact with people who are at higher risk from COVID-19

Please find more information here:

[Stay at home: guidance for households with possible or confirmed coronavirus \(COVID-19\) infection - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk)

We understand that some children may feel anxious about returning to school. We have some tips to help them in this diagram.

If you are worried about your child, please speak to a member of our team who will be happy to support you.



I hope we can have a positive Spring term with lots of learning!

I would like to wish you all a very happy and healthy new year!

Yours sincerely

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