

Caythorpe Primary School
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01400 272600

www. <https://caythorpe.eschools.co.uk>
enquiries@caythorpe-cit.co.uk

Headteacher: Mrs H Hunt

Tuesday 4th January 2022

Dear Parent/ Carer,

I hope that you have all had an enjoyable Christmas break and we look forward to welcoming all of the children back to school on **Wednesday 5th January**.

Government Guidance

On Sunday 2nd January, schools received an update from the Secretary of State for Education, Nadhim Zahawi. This update contained no further measures which needed to be implemented by primary schools in light of the recent rise in infection rates. As a result, the school will continue to operate as it did before the Christmas holidays. The only adjustment will be that we will **no longer be holding singing during whole school assemblies and children will sit within their own classes to eat their lunch**.

Other measures that are currently in place within the school include:

- An increased cleaning regime, including common touch points.
- Washing and sanitising hands regularly.
- Promoting good respiratory hygiene i.e. 'Catch it, Bin it, Kill it'.
- Limiting and taking extra precautions in the way in which school resources are shared.
- Keeping windows and doors open to aid ventilation.
- Further measures being implemented within a class where there are 5 'linked' Covid-19 cases within a 10 day period. This will include keeping this class separate from the rest of the school for a period of time.

Self-Isolation Guidance

Should your child have symptoms of Covid-19 or test positive on a PCR or LFD test then we ask that you ensure that your child self-isolates immediately and that you contact the school as soon as possible to inform us of this. We will provide further advice and guidance at this point if necessary.

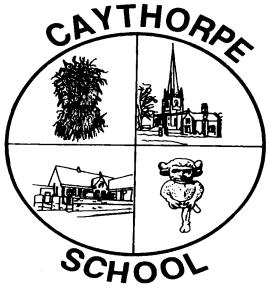
The main symptoms of COVID-19 are:

- a high temperature
- a new, continuous cough – this means coughing a lot, for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours
- a loss or change to sense of smell or taste – this means they cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal

Whilst your child is self-isolating the school will provide them with work to complete. We expect this work to be completed once your child is well enough to do so. This work is available via Class Dojo and is in-line with the work that the rest of the class will be completing at school. If you require information about remote learning, including login details and passwords, please contact the school office once you inform us that your child has tested positive. **Please ensure that the school has your up-to-date email address and contact details.**

Since Wednesday 22 December, the 10 day self-isolation period for people who record a positive PCR test result for COVID-19 has been reduced to 7 days in most circumstances. Therefore children 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-





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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. If both these test results are negative, and your child does not have a high temperature, then they may **end their self-isolation after the second negative test result and return to school from day 8.**

Close Contact Guidance

As before, schools are **not responsible** for contact tracing. Contact tracing is coordinated by NHS Test and Trace and usually does not involve schools. The school will continue to send out a letter to parents/ carers in the event of a positive Covid-19 case within a class. A further letter will then be sent should there be 5 or more linked cases within a 10 day period.

Current guidance states that children and young people aged between 5 and 18 years and 6 months, identified as a close contact of someone with COVID-19, should take an LFD test every day for seven days and **continue to attend their school setting as normal**, unless they have a positive test result or develop symptoms at any time. Children under 5 are not being advised to take part in daily testing of close contacts. If a child under 5 is a contact of a confirmed case then they should arrange to take a PCR test as soon as possible. **They can continue to attend their school setting while waiting for the PCR result.**

School Attendance

School attendance remains compulsory for all pupils across the country and the school will follow up non-attendance in-line with our usual school procedures. The usual rules on school attendance continue to apply including:

- parents' duty to secure that their child attends regularly at school where the child is a registered pupil at school and they are of compulsory school age;
- schools' responsibilities to record attendance and follow up absence
- the availability to issue sanctions, including fixed penalty notices in line with local authorities' codes of conduct

Should you have any concerns about your child attending school or any questions about the information contained within this letter then please do not hesitate to contact either your child's class teacher or Mrs Hunt via the school office. As always, we will continue to stay up-to-date with all current Government guidance and make any necessary changes in light of this.

Kind regards,
Mrs H Hunt
Headteacher

