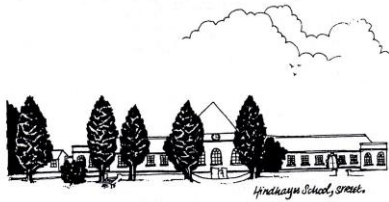


# Hindhayes Infant School



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**Inspire, Enjoy and Achieve**

Headteacher: Mrs Kate Nester

02/03/2022

## Changes to self-isolation and daily testing of close contacts

Dear Parents and Carers,

As you will know, the majority of the COVID-19 restrictions have now eased with a view to living with COVID-19. Despite many of these changes, Operational Guidance for Schools remains in place.

**From Thursday 24 February, the Government will remove the legal requirement to self-isolate following a positive test. Adults and children who test positive will continue to be advised to stay at home and avoid contact with other people for at least 5 full days, and then continue to follow the guidance until they have received 2 negative test results on consecutive days.** Although these are now guidelines rather than legal requirements, we hope that parents will choose to adhere to them. This will help to minimise the number of cases in our school and hopefully keep the staff team COVID free, so that they can continue to teach the children in school.

**In addition, the Government will:**

**No longer ask fully vaccinated close contacts and those aged under 18 to test daily for 7 days, and remove the legal requirement for close contacts who are not fully vaccinated to self isolate.**

**Staff, children and young people should attend their education settings as usual. This includes staff who have been in close contact within their household, unless they are able to work from home.**

The following information from the guidance is relevant to our provision:

- Isolation and daily testing for close contacts is no longer required
- Face covering are no longer recommended (but are welcomed on adults if individuals wish to wear them)
- Control measures will remain in place. These include
  - Ensuring good hygiene for everyone
  - Maintaining appropriate cleaning regimes
  - Keeping occupied spaces well ventilated
- Remote education will remain available for those children that are unable to attend school

Whilst we are moving towards living with COVID-19, we still need to remain vigilant. We kindly ask that, where possible, you keep testing yourselves and your children to help ensure that we keep a healthy environment within the school setting. We thank you in advance for your ongoing support with this. Any symptomatic children will continue to be sent home and expected to test. If a child has a confirmed or suspected case of COVID-19, the school can take the decision to refuse the pupil if, in our reasonable judgement, it is necessary to protect other pupils and staff from possible infection of COVID-19.

As the spring approaches, we are hopeful that the impact of COVID-19 on the school will reduce.

Best Wishes

Kate Nester  
Head Teacher

