

Southwick Community Primary School

Shakespeare Street, Southwick, Sunderland SR5 2JX Telephone (0191) 500 9554 - Fax (0191) 549 3822 Email: info@southwickprimary.co.uk





Dear Parents/ Carers,

We are very much looking forward to seeing you all and having the children back in school on Wednesday.

We are not having a staggered start and teachers will collect the children from the gates. We will call a year group in at a time to avoid a bottle neck at the gates until we all get used to not having staggered starts.

We begin at 8.55 and end at 3.15 for year groups 1-6.

Nursery and Reception children- please come in at the times you have been advised by staff.

COVID guidance states-

Self-isolate straight away and get a <u>PCR test</u> as soon as possible if you have any of these 3 symptoms of COVID-19, even if they are mild:

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

This means that we need to send home all staff and children who display the above symptoms. This is going to be very challenging and difficult to manage as we enter the cold/ flu season so please bear with us.

If a child or adult is a close contact of someone with COVID then the rules have changed-

'Individuals are **not** required to self-isolate if they live in the same household as someone with COVID-19, or are a close contact of someone with COVID-19, if any of the following apply:

- they are fully vaccinated
- they are below the age of 18 years and 6 months
- they have taken part in or are currently part of an approved COVID-19 vaccine trial
- they are not able to get vaccinated for medical reasons

Instead, they will be contacted by NHS Test and Trace, informed they have been in close contact with a positive case and advised to take a <u>PCR test</u>. We would encourage all individuals to take a PCR test if advised to do so.

Staff who do not need to isolate, and children and young people aged under 18 years 6 months who usually attend school, and have been identified as a close contact, **should** continue to attend school as normal. They do not need to wear a face covering within the school, but it is expected and recommended that these are worn when travelling on public or dedicated transport.'

As you can see whilst we are delighted that we hopefully won't need to send children home in large numbers again, it could still be very problematic with any children or staff displaying symptoms.

Please be patient with us as we will be doing all we can to keep our children and community as safe as possible.

As ever, please contact school or email concerns@southwickprimary.co.uk if you have any worries.

Take care,

Mr Robson