



Tuesday 4th January 2022

Arrangements for the Spring Term

Dear Parent/Carer

I hope that the past two weeks has afforded you the opportunity to spend time with your families and friends. I am aware that some of our families have had a challenging couple of weeks and that Covid infections have continued to rise across Lincolnshire over Christmas, in the same manner as they have across much of the country.

We look forward to welcoming all pupils back to school tomorrow on **Wednesday 5th January**. We anticipate that the coming few weeks will be tricky to navigate.

In readiness for the return, I have summarized below the rules and guidance currently available and urge you to read the information carefully. In working together as the West Grantham Family, we will hopefully be able to ensure that we have as many children as possible able to attend school along with enough staff available to teach them. It is my hope that we can navigate the next few weeks with as little disruption to learning as possible.

Returning to school

You may wish to help your child take an LFD test before coming to school tomorrow. Some cases do not present with symptoms, so it is not always obvious that someone is carrying the Covid-19 infection. This will help to keep unknown cases of Covid from coming into school on the first day back.

You may have your own stock of LFD devices, but if not, some pharmacies have them available to pick up. LFD tests provide a result within 15 minutes and only require a nasal swab. Thank you for working with us on this.

Inside the school building

Until 26th January, when a review of the government guidance will take place, access to school for parents will once more be restricted. On the occasions that parents are invited to enter the school building, a face covering must be worn at all times. Parents are welcome to come to the office window, although we would be obliged if non-essential communication is conducted over the phone (01476 563963 Infants, 01476 562091 Juniors) or via the office email address (office@wgpa.snmat.org.uk). Thank you for your co-operation.

Staff will wear face coverings, except when in their own classrooms or main work area. We will continue with the bubble arrangements introduced last half term along with staggered breaks and lunchtimes for the children. Breakfast and after-school clubs remain unaffected.

Remote Learning

Where children are absent because they have Covid-19 or are required to isolate for other authorized reasons, learning will continue to be available online via ClassDojo, using a mixture of resource-based learning. If your child requires a device to do this on, please contact the school office and we will support you with this where possible.

Current Covid Isolation Rules

The 10 day self-isolation period for **pupils who record a positive PCR test result** for COVID-19 has been reduced to 7 days in most circumstances, unless you cannot test for any reason.

Pupils may now take LFD tests on day 6 and 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 setting from day 8.

Please contact the school office if you need any clarification of the above information. We will be more than happy to help.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'anna martin', written in a cursive style.

Mrs Anna Martin
Executive Headteacher