

Downham Preparatory School and Montessori Nursery

Coronavirus Risk Assessment

Written in line with new guidance published 16/12/21

To be read in line with the school's contingency plan

Bubbles

It is no longer recommended that it is necessary to keep groups apart as much as possible.

Children are now allowed to socialise, learn and play with all of the pupils at the school.

Before School Re-Opens, January 2022

All staff are required to test using a LFT before returning to school on Tuesday 4th January.

Visitors in school

All visitors and parents will be asked to take a LFT at home **before visiting** the school. They will also be required to wear a facemask at all times in the school building. Visitors to the school office who are not entering the school will be required to wear a mask. Please contact the office via telephone or email where possible. If you have forgotten to bring a mask with you we have spare ones in the office.

Test and Trace

Daily testing for contacts of COVID-19

From Tuesday 14 December, a new national approach to daily testing for contacts of COVID-19 is being introduced. **All adults who are fully vaccinated and children aged 5 to 18 years and 6 months, identified as a contact of someone with COVID-19 – whether Omicron or not – should take a lateral flow device (LFD) test every day for 7 days instead of self-isolating.** Daily testing by close contacts will help to slow the spread of COVID-19.

Daily testing for contacts of COVID-19 will help protect education settings by reducing transmission and will also help keep pupils in face-to-face education.

Once notified by NHS Test and Trace as a close contact, all eligible staff, pupils and students should take an LFD each day for 7 days and report the results through the [Online Reporting System](#) and to their setting. If they test negative, they can continue to attend their education setting. Outside of the education setting, they should continue to follow the advice set out in the [Sunday 12 December press release](#). This approach should also be adopted over the winter break and on return in January.

If they test positive, they should self-isolate and [order a PCR test](#) to confirm the result. If the PCR is positive, they must self-isolate for 10 days. If the PCR test is negative, they no longer need to self-isolate but should continue to carry out the remainder of the daily tests, and only need to isolate if it is positive.

Children under five years old do not need to take part in daily testing for contacts of COVID-19 and do not need to isolate.

Anyone over the age of 18 years and 6 months, who is not vaccinated, must isolate in line with government guidelines if they are a close contact of a positive case.

For students with SEND who struggle to, or are unable to, self-swab daily for 7 days, settings should work with students and their families to agree an appropriate testing route, such as assisted swabbing. Information on further support measures will be provided.

Finally, it is important to continue regular twice weekly, at-home testing for all education and childcare workforce and all students of secondary age and above.

Informing the school

All staff are advised to LFT twice weekly to keep transmission to minimum. Staff are required to report their test to the government website AND the school office.

If a parent or child receives a positive LFT they MUST inform the office immediately and then follow government guidance on PCR testing and isolation.

If your child is under 5 years old we are required to contact Ofsted and inform them we have had a case.

Facemasks in school

Primary and nursery pupils do not have to wear a facemask. Staff will wear facemask or shields when in communal areas and when speaking to parents at the school entrance. Parents and visitors are required to wear facemask at all times if they are in the school building.

Control Measures

- 1. Ensure good hygiene for everyone**
- 2. Maintain appropriate cleaning regimes, using standard products such as detergents**
- 3. Keep occupied spaces well ventilated**
- 4. Follow public health advice on testing, self-isolation and managing confirmed cases of COVID-19**

Ensure good hygiene for everyone

Children will be required to wash their hands frequently throughout the day and use hand sanitising gel, in particular before eating snacks or lunch, after using the lavatory, before and after sports lessons and playtimes.

Maintain appropriate cleaning regimes

Covid-19 cleaning regimes will continue. Surfaces will be frequently sanitized and an anti-viral mister will be used in the lunch hall and cloakrooms. The after school cleaners will continue to use antiviral products on all surfaces. Nursery will also use the anti-viral mister, to sanitise nursery resources.

Keep occupied spaces well ventilated

All rooms will have at least one window that is open and, where it is safe to do so, the classroom door will also be left open. We will continue to use our outdoor learning facilities as much as possible, weather permitting.

We are using CO2 monitors in rooms with high occupancy.

Reducing the risk of transmission

All school staff will avoid visits to other classrooms, staff room, school kitchen and office. Please use internal telephone system if you need to pass on a message. No more than 3 members of staff are allowed in the staff room at any one time. Please make your drink and leave as soon as possible to allow entry to other staff who are waiting. There are 3 chairs in the staffroom these are for the use of staff looking after children who may need medical attention. Please do not remain seated in the staffroom on these chairs, as this will prevent entry to other staff and children.

Contingency Plan

The school does have a contingency plan for outbreak management in the school, and advanced planning that can be activated very quickly should the government change the guidelines for schools. We would immediately contact the DfE and Public Health England to asked their advice on which procedures we should implement.

Online learning

In the event that a year group has to isolate, or schools are told to close by government (which is highly unlikely) the school will send home online learning timetables. Children will access online learning via their Teams accounts.

If an individual child has to isolate due to Covid-19 and is well enough to do so, they can join in their classes core subject lessons

If a nursery child is isolating individually we advise that you access these websites if you and the child are well enough:

<https://hungrylittleminds.campaign.gov.uk/>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/tiny-happy-people>

<https://wordsforlife.org.uk/>

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/help-children-aged-2-to-4-to-learn-at-home-during-coronavirus-covid-19>

If a whole key group had to isolate the child's key person would hold a short daily session on Teams.

Meetings with Parents, including parents evenings and afternoons

All future meetings with parents will be held on Teams. You will be sent timings for parents evenings or afternoons (nursery) in the coming weeks.

Contact details

Parents and staff, please ensure your contact details are kept up to date. If you have any changes please inform the school office immediately.

Please note comments in red apply solely to Nursery