

## St Luke's C. E. COVID-19 Advice for Parents

September 2021

As the country moves into Step 4 of the roadmap, the government continues to manage the risk of serious illness from the spread of the coronavirus (COVID-19). This marks a new phase in the government's response to the pandemic, moving away from stringent restrictions on everyone's day-to-day lives, towards advising people on how to protect themselves and others, alongside targeted interventions to reduce risk. As COVID-19 becomes a virus that we learn to live with, there is now an imperative to reduce the disruption to Pupils and young people's education - particularly given that the direct clinical risks to Pupils are extremely low.

By following and adhering to the full risk assessment, which can be found on the school website, we will ensure that St Luke's C.E. can prioritise the delivery of face-to-face, high quality education to all pupils.

***This leaflet contains a summary of the main information from the risk assessment for parents and pupils to ensure a safe return to 'normality'.***

### **ATTENDANCE:**

- ✚ All classes start the school day at 8.45am and finish at 3.15pm.
- ✚ School attendance is mandatory for all pupils of compulsory school age.
- ✚ It is a priority to ensure that pupils regularly attend school.
- ✚ All clinically extremely vulnerable pupils and young people should attend school.



### **SCHOOL LIFE:**

- ✚ Pupils will continue to attend school in their full PE kit on their designated PE day.
- ✚ Pupils are allowed to bring bags and other appropriate belongings to school.
- ✚ Reading books and library books can be sent home and returned on a regular basis.



### **HYGIENE:**

- ✚ Face coverings are no longer required and are optional for staff and visitors in classrooms or communal areas.
- ✚ Hand hygiene – frequent and thorough hand cleaning should continue to be regular practice using soap or hand sanitiser.
- ✚ Respiratory hygiene – the 'catch it, bin it, kill it' approach continues to be important.



### **TESTING AND ISOLATING:**

- ✚ From 16/8/21, whole year groups are no longer required to self-isolate if they are contacted by NHS Test and Trace as a close contact of a positive COVID-19 case in their class. Instead, they will be contacted by NHS Test and Trace (this may be via school), informed they have been in close contact with a positive case and advised to take a PCR test.
- ✚ Pupils, staff and other adults should follow current public health advice on when to self-isolate and what to do. They should not come into school if they have symptoms, have had a positive test result or other reasons requiring them to stay at home due to the risk of them passing on COVID-19 (for example, they are required to quarantine).
- ✚ If anyone develops COVID-19 symptoms, however mild, they will be sent home and should follow current public health advice.
- ✚ Staff and pupils with a positive LFD test result should self-isolate in line with the stay at home guidance. They will also need to get a free PCR test to check if they have COVID-19.
- ✚ Whilst awaiting the PCR result, the individual should continue to self-isolate.
- ✚ If the PCR test is taken within 2 days of the positive lateral flow test, and is negative, it overrides the self-test LFD test and the pupil can return to school, as long as the individual doesn't have COVID-19 symptoms.

***The risk assessment will be regularly monitored and updated in accordance with the school structures and needs and in response to any changes implemented by Government public health advice.***

***The risk assessment is written alongside the School Outbreak Management Plan and will change accordingly in order to prioritise the safety of pupils, staff, families and the public. As a result, this may mean a return to some of the previous safety precautions in place during the pandemic.***