

Dear parents and carers,

7th July 2021

Covid-19 summer term 2021

Following the government announcement on Monday 5th July, the Department for Education released updated guidance yesterday evening. This guidance is specifically for schools and colleges and explains changes after Stage 4 has been initiated. It is important to acknowledge that, although Stage 4 is due to commence from 19th July, it is noted in the guidance that it is probable that schools will instigate changes from the autumn term 2021. **We will therefore continue with our present measures in place for the remainder of the summer term 2021.** This will include maintaining the staggered start and end times we have in place for 19th -21st July; working in bubbles; thorough hand washing and sanitising and social distancing and mask wearing when dropping and collecting children.

Academic year 2021/22

From September, face masks and coverings are no longer necessary in school and do not need to be worn on school transport. The DfE have requested that all schools have a plan for stepping up and stepping down so that there is a clear procedure if there is an outbreak in school. This may see a return to bubbles and the wearing of masks and using shields.

The control measures we are due to continue in school for the Autumn term 2021 include:

- Ensure good hygiene for everyone;
- Maintain appropriate cleaning regimes;
- Keep occupied spaces well ventilated;
- Follow public health advice on testing, self-isolation and managing confirmed cases of Covid-19.

Testing

For staff and year 6 pupils moving into year 7, this will continue to take place from the beginning of the autumn term 2021 until at least the end of September 2021 when updated guidance is next expected. Present Year 6 pupils will receive these tests from their secondary school.

From September, if staff or children receive a positive lateral flow test then they should self-isolate and get a PCR test to check if they have Covid-19. 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.

Other considerations from September 2021

All clinically extremely vulnerable children and young people should attend their education setting unless they are one of the very small number of children and young people under paediatric or another specialist care who have been advised by their GP or clinician not to attend.

Children with symptoms should not attend school, given the potential risk to others.

Any children having to isolate because they have tested positive, but who have no symptoms or are well enough to do so, will be offered remote education via TEAMS. It is the expectation that schools will maintain their remote education offer for the 2021/22 academic year.

I hope this helps explain our position in school for the remainder of this term and the start of the next. Thank you for your consideration and understanding. **Please look out for an email tomorrow about end of year events for Y6.**



Kind regards

Tracey Hart, Headteacher

Love learning, work together, achieve and shine.

Tatworth Primary School School Lane Tatworth Chard Somerset TA20 2RX

Telephone: 01460 220565 Email: tatworth@educ.somerset.gov.uk

Company Number: 7700773

www.tatworth.somerset.sch.uk

