

# **Full Opening of Grendon CE Primary School**

## **Parent Information V2**

Effective from Monday 8<sup>th</sup> March 2021

## Background

On 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2021, the DfE announced their intention for all pupils, in all year groups to return to school full-time from Monday 8<sup>th</sup> March 2021. The prevalence of Covid-19 has decreased and it is the DfE's position that returning to school on March 8<sup>th</sup> is vital for children's education and well-being. Time away from school is detrimental for children's cognitive and academic development, particularly for disadvantaged children and those with SEN.

**1 DfE Guidance: Schools coronavirus (Covid-19) operational guidance**

[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/963541/Schools\\_coronavirus\\_operational\\_guidance.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/963541/Schools_coronavirus_operational_guidance.pdf)

**2 DfE Guidance: Coronavirus (Covid-19): implementing protective measures in education and childcare settings**

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-implementing-protective-measures-in-education-and-childcare-settings/coronavirus-covid-19-implementing-protective-measures-in-education-and-childcare-settings>

**3 Covid-19: guidance for households with possible coronavirus infection**

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-stay-at-home-guidance>

**4 Covid-19: cleaning in non-healthcare settings**

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-decontamination-in-non-healthcare-settings/covid-19-decontamination-in-non-healthcare-settings>

**5 NHS Coronavirus (Covid 19) information site**

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/>

**6 Covid-19: getting tested**

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/coronavirus-covid-19-getting-tested>

**7 Rapid lateral flow testing for households and bubbles of school pupils and staff**

[https://www.gov.uk/guidance/rapid-lateral-flow-testing-for-households-and-bubbles-of-school-pupils-and-staff?utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=govuk-notifications&utm\\_source=16f2f8fa-e677-4d06-a24b-ea604e02c92a&utm\\_content=immediately](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/rapid-lateral-flow-testing-for-households-and-bubbles-of-school-pupils-and-staff?utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=govuk-notifications&utm_source=16f2f8fa-e677-4d06-a24b-ea604e02c92a&utm_content=immediately)

This guidance is supported by a risk assessment which is available on the school website.

## General Points

- ✓ Grendon CE Primary School opens fully to all pupils from Monday 8<sup>th</sup> March 2021
- ✓ Pupils attendance at school will be mandatory from this date
- ✓ Parents should not enter the school building
- ✓ The DfE acknowledges in its guidance that social-distancing (as we understand its definition to be in the context of the global Covid-19 pandemic) is not practically possible within a primary school setting. Instead, DfE guidance states that schools should attempt to reduce Covid-19 transmission by:
  - *avoiding contact with anyone with symptoms*
  - *frequent hand cleaning and good hygiene practices*
  - *regular cleaning of settings*
  - *minimising contact and mixing*
- ✓ Children will be grouped into class bubbles for the majority of their time in school
- ✓ Households are encouraged to engage with the (twice-weekly) Lateral Flow Device (LFD) testing programme<sup>7</sup>
- ✓ Do not expect to see school staff wearing face coverings. Whilst staff may choose to wear face coverings, this is not recommended as necessary by the DfE.
- ✓ Consistent with DfE advice, external professionals, coaches, music teachers and a limited number of volunteers will resume work in school
- ✓ For pupils self-isolating due to Covid-19 symptoms, parents are asked to share confirmation of a negative test result prior to their child(ren) returning to school
- ✓ School request that any positive test results of pupils or members of their household are shared with school promptly
- ✓ Parents are reminded to observe Covid-19 rules at all times
- ✓ Pupils are forbidden from using school equipment outside of school hours due to the risk of cross contamination
- ✓ **It is the school's expectation that all parents will not only make themselves fully aware of the parent information contained in this document but that they will also adhere to the strict guidance that is clearly laid out within.**

## Reducing Covid-19 Transmission: **for a child becoming unwell in the setting**

### Control Measures

- If a pupil displays Coronavirus symptoms [new, continuous cough or high temperature or a loss or change in sense of taste or smell] they will be isolated and sent home immediately, with parents directed to follow government<sup>3</sup> and NHS<sup>5</sup> guidance, including the DfE guidance to get tested<sup>6</sup>
- The library is the designated isolation room but may be used for other activities, such as group interventions.
- A staff member working with the group containing a symptomatic child will use PPE (facemask, apron and gloves) and supervise the child in the isolation room at a distance of 2m where possible and with the window open until they can safely leave school.
- Government guidance<sup>4</sup> will be followed to ensure the adequate cleaning of the room by the member of staff involved in the case. This will include disinfecting surfaces, double bagging and storing for 72 hours any PPE used and washing hands.
- Anyone else within the group does not need to go home unless they display symptoms.
- A subsequent negative test means that the pupil/adult can return to the setting
- Everyone who has contact with an unwell pupil/adult must wash their hands

## Reducing Covid-19 Transmission: **for a confirmed case of Covid-19 in the setting**

### Control Measures

- If someone tests positive, they should follow DfE guidance<sup>3</sup> and self-isolate from the date of their positive test or from the onset of symptoms (whichever comes first) for 10 full days, with other members of the same household also self-isolating for 10 days.
- The school will immediately contact the DfE Helpline who will support the school in conducting a risk assessment to determine next steps.
- DfE guidance states: *'those people who have been in close contact with the person who tested positive'* must go home and self-isolate for 10. To aid this process, the school will document the individuals that the affected person has had contact with.
- Household members of those who are sent home (without symptoms) are not required to self-isolate.
- If a person who has been sent home develops Covid-19 symptoms, they must get tested. If they subsequently test positive, they should inform school immediately. If they test negative, they should still self-isolate for the remainder of the 10 day period because *'they could still develop'* Covid-19
- The school must not release the names or details of those people with Coronavirus.
- Anyone testing positive should be prepared to provide details, when asked by NHS Test and Trace, of anyone that they come into contact with.
- 2 or more confirmed cases may indicate an outbreak and Health Protection Team (HPT) will advise and support accordingly.

## Reducing Covid-19 Transmission: **at the start and end of the school day**

### Control Measures

- **Parents and visitors may not enter the school building**
- **Parents may access the playground via the front and rear entrance but must not congregate or wait along the narrow path leading from the front pedestrian access gate. This area is a no waiting zone.**
- Drop off extended from 8.45 – 9.15am, with pick up from 3.15m – 3.30pm to ease congestion.
- Only one parent of each child should enter the school site for the purpose of school drop off/pick up.
- Parents instructed to drop off/pick up children in the playground and **leave the school site promptly**
- Parents are requested to observe the 2m social distancing rule whilst on school site.
- All children enter their classroom immediately on arrival where they will be greeted by a member of staff
- At home time, pupils will remain in the classroom and be dismissed one at a time to minimise congestion
- All childcare provision will resume (morning supervision from 8.30am and after-school childcare starting from 8<sup>th</sup> March). Wherever possible, the 4 distinct class groups will be maintained within these childcare settings.

## Reducing Covid-19 Transmission: **between home and school**

### Control Measures

- Anybody displaying symptoms must not to come to school as per government guidance<sup>3</sup>
- All staff and pupils to wash hands on arrival at and before leaving school
- Children should bring in lunchbox and snack, named water bottle and coat (if necessary), reading book, Home Communication Book and homework.
- Pupils should not bring their own bags. Schools will provide pupils with an A4 plastic wallet (Years 3-6) or Book Bag (EYFS and Years 1-2)
- Children should come to school in PE kit on their PE days (which teachers will advise you of separately)
- There will be no physical access to the school office. Instead all enquiries should be made via email and phone
- Staff will get in close proximity of pupils if their duty of care demands it eg; to administer first aid
- Face coverings in school are not recommended by PHE and the DfE states that their use may infact have *'negative effects on communication and therefore education.'*
- DfE guidance states that: *'Uniforms do not need to be cleaned any more often or differently than usual.'*
- For pupils self-isolating due to Covid-19 symptoms, parents are asked to share confirmation of a negative test result prior to their child(ren) returning to school
- School request that any positive test results of pupils or members of their household are shared with school promptly
- Parents are reminded to observe Covid-19 rules at all times
- Pupils are forbidden from using school equipment outside of school hours due to the risk of cross contamination
- Households are encouraged to engage with the twice-weekly Lateral Flow Device (LFD) testing programme<sup>7</sup>

## Reducing Covid-19 Transmission: **by controlling movement around school**

### Control Measures

- Pupils will access one classroom where they will remain for the vast majority of the day
- Children will leave their classroom only to access toilets, outdoor space, for administration of medication/first aid and for group or individual interventions
- PE will initially only take place outside and will only include non-contact sports
- Classes to use own external doors to access the playground
- Only one child per class/group to be authorised to use the toilet at any one time
- Floor markings will be placed outside toilets for pupils to observe if there is a queue.
- Children reminded to wash hands for 20 seconds after each toilet visit
- There will be no assemblies or whole school events in the hall
- Packed lunches will be eaten in classrooms (or outside) with hot meals mainly served in the hall. In some instances, hot meals may be served in classrooms. Staff members will serve and collect plates/cups to prevent congestion and interaction between pupils
- Messages between the office and classrooms to take place only via telephone/email, with electronic registers used to minimise contact.

## Reducing Covid-19 Transmission: **at other times of the school day (1)**

### Control Measures

- A clear and enhanced cleaning schedule is in place to include the daily cleaning of all rooms/areas used in school.
- Lidded bins will be situated in each classroom for disposal of tissues
- Cleaning 'stations' including alcohol wipes, disinfectant spray and hand sanitiser will be positioned in each classroom and key areas around school with regularly used surfaces/items cleaned between uses.
- A designated hand washing station or sink is available to each of the 4 core groups of pupils
- For the majority of their time in school, children will be limited to their class groups
- Pupils will wash hands on arrival to and before departing school and before and after activities, including eating
- Children will be regularly reminded not to touch their face and to *'catch, bin and kill'* sneezes and coughs
- Where children cannot independently manage their own hygiene, they will be supported to do so by an adult. PPE (facemask, apron and gloves) should be used by staff when involved in 'intimate care' of pupils.
- Teachers will continue marking work as per school policy and children can access reading books from a class based library
- Where possible, children will work side by side (and facing the front of the room) as opposed to facing each other, although the physical layout of the school and the age of the children mean that will not always be possible

## Reducing Covid-19 Transmission: **at other times of the school day (2)**

### Control Measures

- The DfE guidance states that: *'All staff can operate across different groups in order to facilitate the timetable.'* Interventions (individual and group) will resume and may include children from different groups. Communal learning spaces may be used but are timetabled to avoid clashes.
- Windows and internal doors will be open where possible to aid ventilation and minimise contact with handles.
- The school's learning environments are once again be designed to reflect the school's curriculum themes
- Children continue to be provided with their own individual equipment eg; pens, pencils
- Outdoor learning is promoted at every opportunity. Outdoor space will be 'zoned' so that multiple groups can work/play outside simultaneously. The zones will include the EY space [for Nursery and Reception only], Quiet Garden, Woodland Hideout, Main Playground and 2 zones which will be marked on the grass bank.
- All breaks will be staggered so that no two groups of children occupy the same zone of the main playground at the same time
- Within their designated class group, *'it is acceptable for children not to distance.'*
- First aid will be administered on the playground wherever possible
- Outdoor equipment should not be used unless staff clean them between use or allocate them permanently to individuals
- External professionals eg; music tutors, will resume their roles in school whilst adhering to the school's risk assessment.
- Volunteers will resume work in school in agreement with the Head, adhering to the school's risk assessment and working within one bubble only.

## Reducing Covid-19 Transmission: **for vulnerable children and those with SEN**

### Control Measures

- Interventions and support for 1:1 arrangements will be provided whilst maintaining social-distancing and may take place in classrooms and communal learning spaces
- The government advises any child who meets the criteria of being extremely clinically vulnerable '*can return to their educational settings.*' unless they have been advised specifically by their GP to stay off school