

# **Grendon CE Primary School Covid-19**

## **Parent Information**

Effective from Monday 15<sup>th</sup> November 2021

## DfE & NHS guidance

The school continues to follow DfE & NHS guidance

**<sup>1</sup> DfE Guidance: Schools coronavirus (Covid-19) operational guidance**

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/actions-for-schools-during-the-coronavirus-outbreak>

**<sup>2</sup> 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>

**<sup>3</sup> Covid-19: guidance for households with possible coronavirus infection**

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

**<sup>4</sup> 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>

**<sup>5</sup> NHS Coronavirus (Covid 19) information site**

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

**<sup>6</sup> Covid-19: getting tested**

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

**<sup>7</sup> Managing coronavirus (Covid-19) in education and childcare settings**

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

**<sup>8</sup> When to self-isolate and what to do**

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/self-isolation-and-treatment/when-to-self-isolate-and-what-to-do/>

**<sup>9</sup> Coronavirus: how to stay safe and help prevent the spread**

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/covid-19-coronavirus-restrictions-what-you-can-and-cannot-do>

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

## General Points

- ✓ Grendon CE Primary School remains fully open to all pupils and attendance remains mandatory
- ✓ This new version of the Parent Information has been formulated in consultation with Public Health England as a result of increased Covid infections in the setting
- ✓ If a member of their household tests positive for Covid, a pupil should take a PCR test and self-isolate whilst waiting for the test result. If their result is negative, it is recommended that they take daily lateral flow tests for 10 days
- ✓ Households are strongly encouraged to engage with the (twice-weekly) Lateral Flow Device (LFD) testing programme
- ✓ Parents should not enter the school building
- ✓ The school will 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*
- ✓ Class bubbles will be reinstated until further notice
- ✓ Face coverings will be worn at the discretion of individual staff
- ✓ External professionals, music teachers and a limited number of volunteers will continue work in school
- ✓ Extra-curricular clubs will be suspended until further notice
- ✓ 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
- ✓ **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 will otherwise be used for other activities, such as group interventions.
- A staff member working with the group containing a symptomatic child will use PPE and supervise the child in the isolation room 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, appropriate disposal of any PPE used and washing hands.
- Anyone else within the group does not need to go home unless they display symptoms.
- A subsequent negative PCR test means that the pupil/adult can return to the setting
- Everyone who has contact with an unwell pupil/adult must wash their hands
- Parents should refer to the advice from Public Health England issued to school and shared with stakeholders on 13<sup>th</sup> November 2021 and available here

## 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. Other members of the same household with no symptoms do not need to self-isolate if they are ineligible (due to age or medical exemption) or fully vaccinated – this means that 14 days have passed since their final dose. However, all household members should take a PCR test<sup>8</sup>.
- If a member of their household tests positive for Covid, a pupil should take a PCR test. If their result is negative, they should take daily lateral flow tests for 10 days
- Asymptomatic household members who take a PCR test (due to being a close contact) should only return to school on receipt of a negative test outcome.
- For families with a positive Covid-19 case in the household, the school will authorise absences for children who are kept off school even if the child has recorded a negative PCR test.
- The DfE's Contingency Framework<sup>7</sup> requires schools to take 'extra action' if at least 5 pupils/staff, who are 'likely to have mixed closely, test positive for Covid-19 within a 10 day period'. In this event, the school will contact the DfE Helpline who will support the school in conducting a risk assessment to determine next steps.
- 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.
- The school will not release the names or details of those people with Coronavirus.
- If a pupil is absent from school due to them testing positive for Covid-19, the school will provide remote learning for the duration of their absence if the child is well enough to engage with it.

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

### Control Measures

- Current guidance<sup>9</sup> states that 'You do not need to stay 2 metres apart from people you do not live with. There are also no limits on the number of people you can meet. However, you should limit the close contact you have with those you do not usually live with. This includes minimising the number, proximity and duration of social contacts'. With this in mind, the school will continue to implement the following restrictions as good practice.
- **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.**
- Only one parent of each child should enter the school site for the purpose of school drop off/pick up. The exception to this rule is parents of children new to Reception/Nursery who may both drop off/collect during their first week in school.
- Parents instructed to drop off/pick up children in the playground and **leave the school site promptly**
- Parents are requested to observe the safe 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 continue (morning supervision from 8.30am and after-school childcare). Drop-off is from 8.45-8.55am with collection at the normal time of 3.30pm. The extended drop-off is to provide a calm start to the day and is unrelated to Covid-19 risk.

## 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
- DfE guidance states that: *'Uniforms do not need to be cleaned any more often or differently than usual.'*
- For pupils self-isolating (10 days) 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
- Households are encouraged to engage with the twice-weekly Lateral Flow Device (LFD) testing programme

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

### Control Measures

- Class bubbles will be reintroduced for the foreseeable future
- PE will take place outside for the foreseeable future
- Off-site visits will be suspended (with the exception of PE on the field)
- 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
- Children reminded to wash hands for 20 seconds after each toilet visit
- Whole school assemblies will be suspended until further notice, along with shared breaks and lunchtimes
- 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 class
- Pupils will wash hands on arrival to and before departing school and before and after activities, including eating
- Children will be reminded 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 may 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 either their class based or school 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

- All staff can operate across different groups and classes within the school although they will be timetabled to minimise this where possible.
- Interventions (individual and group) will continue and may include children from different groups. Communal learning spaces 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 continue to be designed to reflect the school's curriculum themes
- Where appropriate, children may be provided with their own individual equipment eg; pens, pencils
- Outdoor learning is promoted at every opportunity
- Extra-curricular clubs will be suspended until further notice
- Break and lunchtime will once again be staggered and children will have 'zoned' access to designated outdoor spaces
- Carbon dioxide monitors are installed in each classroom and public work spaces/offices to ensure adequate ventilation at all times
- External professionals eg; music tutors, will continue their roles in school whilst adhering to the school's risk assessment.
- Volunteers will continue work in school in agreement with the Head, adhering to the school's risk assessment

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

### Control Measures

- All interventions and 1:1 support will continue to 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