

Grendon CE Primary School Covid-19

Parent Information

Effective from Thursday 24th February 2022

DfE & NHS guidance

The guidance in this document is applicable from 24th February 2022. It will be reviewed fortnightly after this time and may be updated to reflect any further guidance issued by the DfE. This guidance is supported by a risk assessment which is available on the school website.

NEW DfE Guidance: Asymptomatic testing in education settings from 21st February 2022 – what, why and when

<https://grendonprimary.net/index.php/files/91/Useful-Links/780/DfE---Asymptomatic-testing-in-education-settings-from-21-February-22--what-why-and-when.pdf>

NEW Covid-19 Response: Living with Covid-19

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-response-living-with-covid-19>

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

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

Covid-19: guidance for households with possible coronavirus infection

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

NHS Coronavirus (Covid 19) information site

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

Covid-19: getting tested

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

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>

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>

General Points

- ✓ Grendon CE Primary School remains fully open to all. Pupils attendance at school continues to be mandatory
- ✓ Twice-weekly lateral flow testing for staff in primary settings will cease with immediate effect. Households are also no longer encouraged to take part in asymptomatic lateral flow testing (either twice-weekly or in response to a close contact testing positive for Covid-19)
- ✓ Guidance on self-isolation continues and is shown in **Appendix 1**. 'Anyone with symptoms should take a PCR test, stay at home and follow government guidance. People who have tested positive will continue to be advised to stay at home for five full days and then receive two negative [LFD] test results on consecutive days [at least 24 hours apart] before returning [to school]'. *DfE: Asymptomatic testing in education settings from 21st February 2022 – what, why and when*
- ✓ Pupils testing positive for Covid are presenting with a range of symptoms including sore throat and headache. Please consider taking your child for a PCR test if they are unwell even if they are not displaying the 'official' symptoms of high temperature, new and continuous cough and lack of sense of smell/taste
- ✓ Individuals can contract Covid-19 more than once – the school has multiple examples of repeat infections amongst pupils.
- ✓ The school will continue to follow enhanced hygiene measures
- ✓ There continues to be no restrictions on pupils' movement around school and so classes will continue to mix and whole school gatherings will continue
- ✓ Face coverings may be worn by school staff at their discretion
- ✓ External professionals, coaches, music teachers and a limited number of volunteers will continue work in school
- ✓ Parents should not enter the school building
- ✓ School request that any positive test results of pupils 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 and NHS guidance, including the DfE guidance to get tested
- If a person who has been sent home develops Covid-19 symptoms, they should get tested. If they subsequently test positive, they should inform school immediately. If they test negative, they may return to the setting upon providing proof of the negative result.
- 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 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

Reducing Covid-19 Transmission: **for a confirmed case of Covid-19**

Control Measures

- If someone tests positive, they should follow DfE guidance and self-isolate from the date of the positive test or from the onset of symptoms (whichever comes first) and then for 10 full days.
- You can stop self-isolating after 5 full days if you do a LFD test on days 5 and 6 of your self-isolation period and both tests are negative and you did the tests on consecutive days and you do not have a high temperature.
- If you have a high temperature after the 10 days, or are feeling unwell, keep self-isolating and seek medical advice.
- All pupils (and fully-vaccinated adults) identified as a contact of someone with Covid-19 are no longer advised to take LFD test every day for 7 days and should continue to attend their setting as normal, unless they have a positive test result or develop Covid symptoms.
- For families with a positive Covid-19 case in the household, the school will authorise absences for children who are kept off school as a precaution even if the child has recorded a negative PCR test.
- The DfE's Contingency Framework 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.
- 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

- 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.
- Parents should 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 should not to come to school as per government guidance
- 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.'*
- School request that any positive test results of pupils are shared with school promptly
- Parents are reminded to observe Covid-19 rules at all times
- Households are no longer advised to engage with twice-weekly Lateral Flow Device (LFD) testing programme

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

Control Measures

- The majority of restrictions relating to movement around school have been lifted.
- PE will take place both inside and outside
- 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 continue this term, as will shared break 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

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

Control Measures

- All staff will continue to work 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.
- Break and lunchtime will be no longer be staggered and children may access all areas of the outdoor spaces
- 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

Appendix 1 – Self Isolation Guidance

How five-day isolation rule works in England

