



NEWBOTTLE & CHARLTON CEVA PRIMARY SCHOOL

Every person matters, every moment counts "I can do all this through him who gives me strength"

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Headteacher: Mr Peter Smith

Chair Of Governors: Lady Hayter

25.2.22

Dear Parents and Carers

I am writing to update you on the changes to the government guidance on COVID-19 and the ways this will affect how the school operates. I am sure that you will be aware of some of the changes that have already been reported in the press.

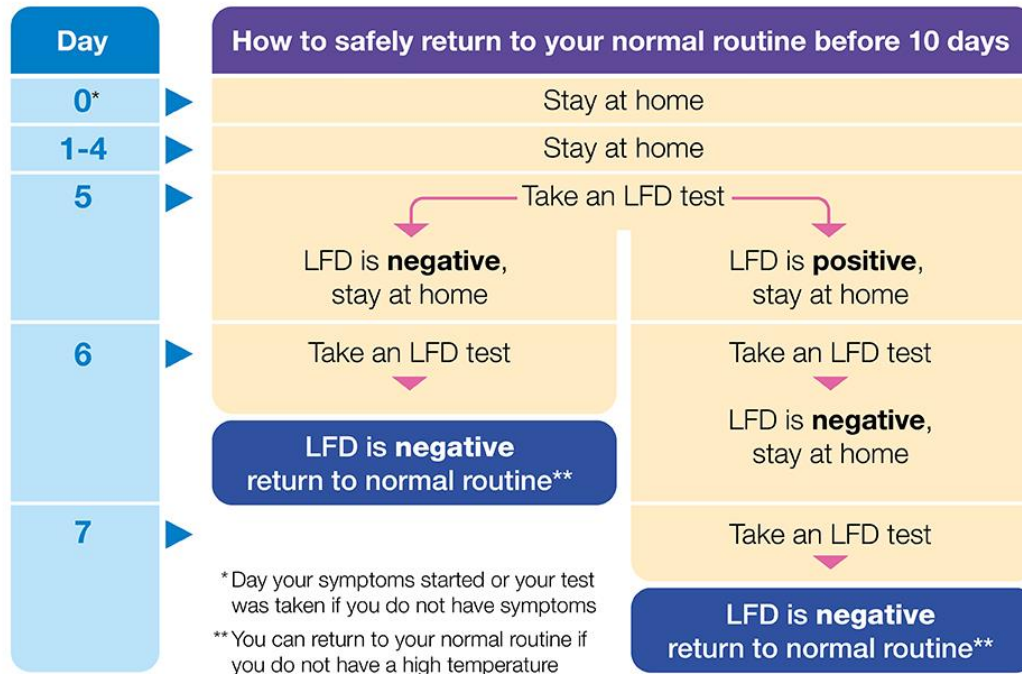
Self-isolation

- From Thursday 24th February, the government has removed the legal requirement to self-isolate following a positive test. However, adults and children who test positive will continue to be advised to stay at home and avoid contact with other people for at least five full days, and then continue to follow the guidance until they have received two negative test results on consecutive days. We are still advising that anyone who tests positive does self-isolate and should not come into school to help reduce the spread of the virus in school.
- Routine contact tracing will end. Fully vaccinated close contacts and those aged under 18 will no longer be asked to test daily for seven days and close contacts who are not fully vaccinated will no longer be required to self-isolate.

Further information on the up-to-date guidance on self –isolation can be found by clicking this link- [COVID-19: people with COVID-19 and their contacts - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/guidance/covid-19-people-with-covid-19-and-their-contacts) and [When to stay at home if you have coronavirus \(COVID-19\) and what to do - NHS \(www.nhs.uk\)](https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus/covid-19/when-to-stay-at-home-if-you-have-coronavirus)

Lateral Flow Testing

- With immediate effect, the government has removed the guidance for staff and students in most education and childcare settings to take twice-weekly asymptomatic testing.
- All staff and students will continue to be able to access test kits from their local pharmacy or online.
- Anyone with symptoms should take a PCR test, stay at home and follow government guidance if positive. People who have tested positive will continue to be advised to stay at home for five full days and then receive two negative test results on consecutive days before returning to their workplace or setting.
- Staff and students who test positive should use any test kits they already have at home to undertake testing on days five and six, before returning to school if they test negative and are well to go so. If they have run out, they should order additional test kits online via gov.uk or contact school for more kits
- Lateral Flow testing may be reintroduced if there is a local outbreak and this is advised by Northamptonshire Public Health.



Attendance

Attendance is mandatory for all pupils of compulsory school age. This means it's your legal duty as a parent to send your child to school regularly. If you have concerns about your child attending, you should discuss these with us by contacting the office.

Control Measures

Unfortunately, Covid-19 has not disappeared and we are having to learn to live with the virus. With this in mind, we still have to have some protective measures in place at school to reduce any chance of an outbreak. Throughout the pandemic we have tried our best to keep our students and staff safe and the school open. We will continue to do this.

These control measures are:

- 1. Good hygiene for everyone--** Everyone should be cleaning their hands / using hand sanitiser regularly and ensuring they sneeze or cough into a tissue or elbow.
- 2. Appropriate cleaning regimes-** We have additional cleaning happening at the school, particularly of frequently touched surfaces and this will continue.
- 3. Good ventilation-** This is one of the most important control measures. All classrooms are ventilated with fresh air. CO2 monitors will be continued to be used so staff can quickly identify where ventilation needs to be improved.
- 4. Further Measures-** We will continue to follow advice from Public Health and have contingency plans in place in case of any outbreak.

Remote Learning

All state-funded schools must provide remote education for school-aged children who are unable to attend school due to following government guidance or law relating to COVID-19 (for example if they are self-isolating, or if they have tested positive but are well enough to learn from home). Please email your class teacher if your child is well enough to receive work.



Further information can be found at- [What parents and carers need to know about early years providers, schools and colleges - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/what-parents-and-carers-need-to-know-about-early-years-providers-schools-and-colleges)

As we enter Spring, I feel that this is positive news in getting back to a more normal way of life both inside and outside school. From next week we will be holding whole school collective worship in the hall and we will be inviting parents who have children who will be awarded an achiever, headteacher value award or have an outside achievement to our Friday's assembly. You will receive an invitation by text on Friday morning. We will re-evaluate this in the next week or so. We will be holding face-to-face Parents evenings in March and we will be reverting back to the organisation we have for lunch-times mixing more outside.

Thank you for all your support during the pandemic.

Peter Smith

Headteacher