



Executive Head Teacher: Mrs. J. Heaton OBE
Head Teacher: Mrs. K. Hill

Dear Parents/Carers

I hope you have had a fun summer holiday with your children and managed a return to some form of normality. We are excited for the pupils to return on Monday 6th September (KS2 8:30 –8:40 and EYFS and KS1 8:40 –8:50). We have lots of fun learning planned and can't wait to see them. We have received the updated Government Guidance and thought it may be useful to provide some additional information to support parents/carers. I hope they are helpful and provide some clarity.

COVID

School have worked with the guidance and implemented a risk assessment in line with the guidance. The Risk Assessment is available on the website and reviewed regularly. To support parents, I have pulled to together some key points from the guidance below.

Hygiene

On their return, all pupils will be reminded how to hand wash, use hand sanitiser and 'catch, bin and kill it'. School will continue to follow the guidance that is available at <https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/healthy-body/best-way-to-wash-your-hands>.

Hand sanitisers are available at entrance points to the building and staff, visitors and pupils are asked to use them on entry. Pupils and staff should wash their hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds on entering school and at regular intervals throughout the day, particularly after going to the toilet, touching faces, coughing or sneezing, learning outside and before and after eating.

Symptoms and not coming into school

All persons who develop coronavirus symptoms **however mild** will be sent home as soon as possible and they should then follow government guidance on self-isolating and testing. If a pupil is awaiting collection, they will be isolated until the point of collection and will be asked to test if they display symptoms of coronavirus.

Positive Tests

Those with a positive LFD test result should self-isolate in line with the [stay at home guidance for households with possible or confirmed coronavirus \(COVID-19\) infection](#). They will also need to [get a free PCR test to check if they have COVID-19](#).

Whilst awaiting the PCR result, the individual should continue to self-isolate.

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.



Pupils must not come into school if:

- they have symptoms,
- have had a positive test result
- or other reasons requiring them to stay at home due to the risk of them passing on COVID-19 (for example, they are required to quarantine)

Contact Tracing

School will no longer be responsible for track and trace. NHS test and trace will work with individuals and/or their parents to identify close contacts. Contacts from a school setting will only be traced by NHS Test and Trace where the positive case and/or their parent specifically identifies the individual as being a close contact. This is likely to be a small number of individuals who would be most at risk of contracting COVID-19 due to the nature of the close contact. Schools may be contacted in exceptional cases to help with identifying close contacts. Individuals are not required to self-isolate if they live in the same household as someone with COVID-19, or are a close contact of someone with COVID-19, and any of the following apply:

they are fully vaccinated

they are below the age of 18 years and 6 months

they have taken part in or are currently part of an approved COVID-19 vaccine trial

they are not able to get vaccinated for medical reasons

Instead, they will be contacted by NHS Test and Trace, informed they have been in close contact with a positive case and advised to take a PCR test. We would encourage all individuals to take a PCR test if advised to do so.

Well Being Support For Pupils

Focused pastoral support will be provided for pupils' individual issues to support the rebuilding of friendships and social engagement, address and equip pupils to respond to issues linked to covid-19 and support pupils with their approaches to improving physical and mental well-being. Sara Leighton is the school's Well Being lead and can be contacted via the school office.

First Response

First response attendance system will continue to be adhered to in school. The school should be notified of a child's absence before the start of the school day so that school knows that the child is safe and are in no danger. If school are not notified, school will contact the parent/carer. If contact has not been made before midday, school will visit the home to ensure that no help is needed. If contact is still not made, school will seek support from the police.

Communicating With Staff

Communication from parents with school staff will be by phone, by emailing: info.hart@nllt.co.uk or a pre-set meeting by the teacher on MST. If a parent needs to drop something off/pick something up at school then this should be pre-arranged where possible.

Attendance

School attendance **is mandatory** for all pupils of compulsory school age and it is a priority to ensure that as many children as possible regularly attend school. It is essential that pupils do not arrive late or depart early so that they receive their full educational entitlement.

Where a child is required to self-isolate or quarantine because of COVID-19 in accordance with relevant, they will be recorded as code X (not attending in circumstances related to coronavirus). Where they are unable to attend because they have a confirmed case of COVID-19 they will be recorded as code I (illness).

We ask that parents/carers choosing to take their child abroad bear in mind the impact on their child's education which may result from any requirement to quarantine or isolate upon return.

Remote Education

Remote Education will only be provided to those children isolating due to COVID 19 and not for other reasons/illnesses.

Up-to date Medical and Contact Details

Please can we remind parents/carers of the need to provide up-to-date medical information and maintain records for pupils and staff.

As we have throughout this pandemic, we will continue to liaise with Health and Safety and Local Public Health Teams on testing, self-isolation and managing confirmed cases of COVID-19 and will notify you of any changes.

Homework and Spellings

Early Years homework will consist of a well-matched reading book, story sack, online Numbots and entries to 'Me, My Family, My World' book. The nursery rhyme of the week, poem of the week and phonemes of the week will also be shared with parents.

From KS1 upwards, homework will be set via MS Teams each Monday for completion by the following Monday. If you have any trouble locating or accessing the homework, please email the school info account and someone will be in touch to help.

Spellings will be taught in school and spelling lists will be sent home weekly in order for parents to support this learning at home. Children will be given the opportunity to review and recall their spellings daily rather than in an end of week spelling test.

Books

Although your child will be taught to read at school, you can have a huge impact on their reading journey by continuing their practice at home.

KS2

Children in Year 3 upwards will bring home a reading book each week which should be returned once completed. Please add comments to your child's Reading Log when you hear them read.

EYFS and KS1

There are two types of reading book that your child will bring home each week:

Reading practice book. Your child will have been reading this book in school during their reading group sessions the previous week. This will be at the correct phonic stage for your child. They should be able to read this fluently and independently.

Sharing book. Your child will not be able to read this on their own. This book is for you both to read and enjoy together.

Reading practice book

This book has been carefully matched to your child's current reading level. If your child is reading it with little help, please don't worry that it's too easy – your child needs to develop fluency and confidence in reading.

Listen to them read the book. Remember to give them lots of praise – celebrate their success! If they can't read a word, read it to them. After they have finished, talk about the book together.

Sharing book – story sack / book of their choice

In order to encourage your child to become a lifelong reader, it is important that they learn to read for pleasure. The sharing book is a book to enjoy together.



Please remember that you shouldn't expect your child to read this alone. Read it to or with them. Discuss the pictures, enjoy the story, predict what might happen next, use different voices for the characters, explore the facts in a non-fiction book. The main thing is that you have fun!

Further information, resources and support can be found on:

<https://www.littlewandlelettersandsounds.org.uk/resources/for-parents/>

Enjoy the last weekend of the school holidays and we look forward to seeing you and welcoming the children back on Monday 6th September

Mrs Hill
Head Teacher