



Dear Parent/Carer

Re: HEADTEACHER UPDATE COVID -19 (29/11/2021)

Please find attached an updated risk assessment which has been updated in response to the Prime Minister's update to the nation on Saturday.

At this time of year there are a number of activities planned in schools. COVID-19 cases are high in the community so we will continue to be deliberately cautious in our approach to activities.

Many of the activities that we will continue to run (Christmas concerts, parties, Christmas lunch etc.) are considered an important part of the educational experience for our pupils and we want to make up for the missed opportunities of last year. However, we will proceed with caution and vigilance so as to keep children, staff and visitors to the school safe.

All activities will refer to Event Guidance by the Headteacher and NYCC and will be in line with Public Health COVID-19 advice for educational settings.

We have prioritised to go ahead with the activities that we feel we can deliver safely and are important to us. Where possible, we have made adaptations or put in extra restrictions such as with arrangements for the PTA Christmas Event and EYFS/KS 1 Christmas Concerts.

Unfortunately, there will be no whole school Christmas Service as we would struggle to run the event based on the latest guidance given to us.

Please note, that regardless of the guidance and our risk assessments, if we have multiple live cases in our school or in specific primary year groups or local community cases are high, then activities may be cancelled and that the school reserves the right to cancel at short notice.

What to do if your child develops symptoms of COVID 19

If your child develops symptoms of COVID-19, then they must obtain a PCR test and must not come to school. Anyone with symptoms will be eligible for testing and this can be arranged via <https://www.nhs.uk/ask-for-a-coronavirus-test> or by calling 119.

Further information is available at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-stay-at-home-guidance/stay-at-home-guidance-for-households-with-possible-coronavirus-covid-19-infection>



Symptoms

The most common symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19) are recent onset of:

- a new continuous cough
- a high temperature
- a loss of, or change in, your normal sense of taste or smell (anosmia)
- HOWEVER, although not on the government website, BBC News reports the Delta variant symptoms in young people are headache, sore throat and runny nose and generally feeling unwell.
- A newOMICRON virus is coming our way in which patients may suffer from muscle aches, scratchy throat and dry cough. For those testing positive and notified they have this virus the advice is as follows: **Any suspected or confirmed close contacts of the Omicron variant will be asked to isolate for 10 days regardless of vaccination status or age**

For most people, coronavirus (COVID-19) will be a mild illness.

If your child does develop symptoms, you can seek advice from the nhs.uk website at <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/check-if-you-have-coronavirus-symptoms/>. If you are concerned about your child's symptoms, or they are worsening you can seek advice from NHS 111 at <https://111.nhs.uk/> or by phoning 111.

How to stop COVID-19 spreading

There are things you can do to help reduce the risk of you and anyone you live with getting ill with COVID-19

Do

- wash your hands with soap and water often – do this for at least 20 seconds
- use hand sanitiser gel if soap and water are not available
- wash your hands as soon as you get home
- cover your mouth and nose with a tissue or your sleeve (not your hands) when you cough or sneeze
- put used tissues in the bin immediately and wash your hands afterwards
- Wear masks in public/communal places – including when parents drop their children off or collect them from school

Further Information

Further information is available at <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/>

Yours sincerely

Richard Wright

Executive Headteacher