



## DUNNINGTON C.E. PRIMARY SCHOOL

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Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome back and a very Happy New Year to you all! I hope you have all managed to enjoy a restful time with family and friends over the festive period. As a staff, we would like to thank children and parents for all the kind messages, cards and gifts received at the end of last term. They were very much appreciated and gratefully received.

We have enjoyed a positive start to the term and thankfully, despite the national picture, currently only have a small number of isolated COVID cases within the school community. Our school COVID risk assessment and protocols have been updated on our school website to reflect the latest government guidance for schools. There will be no significant changes to our operational procedures but these will be kept under continual review and I will endeavour to keep you informed of any amendments, should we experience any significant challenges moving forward.

### **A reminder of the daily testing requirements for contacts of COVID-19**

From 14 December, a new national approach to daily testing for contacts of COVID-19 was introduced. All adults who are fully vaccinated and children aged 5 to 18 years and 6 months, identified as a contact of someone with COVID-19 – whether Omicron or not – should take an LFD test every day for 7 days instead of self-isolating. Children under five years old do not need to take part in daily testing for contacts of COVID-19 and do not need to isolate.

Once notified by Test and Trace as a close contact, all eligible staff, pupils and students are strongly recommended to take a LFD each day for 7 days and report the results through the [online reporting system](#) and to their setting. If they test negative, they can continue to attend their education setting. Outside of the education setting, they should continue to follow [national guidance](#).

There is no need for primary age pupils (those in year 6 and below) to regularly test, unless they have been identified as a contact for someone who has tested positive for Covid-19 and therefore advised to take lateral flow tests every day for 7 days

For primary aged children, LFD test kits should be available through the usual routes; community test sites, local pharmacies or [order COVID-19 rapid lateral flow tests online](#), although I realise these have been very difficult to obtain over the festive period.

Yesterday, we received notification that confirmatory PCR tests are also to be temporarily suspended for positive lateral flow device (LFD) test results with effect from Tuesday 11 January.

This will mean that anyone who receives a positive LFD test result will be required to self-isolate immediately and will not be required to take a confirmatory PCR test.

If your child has any symptoms, please keep them at home until you are able to obtain and carry out a LFD test.

## **Positive cases are required to isolate for up to 10 days.**

Individuals who have tested positive for COVID may now take LFD tests on day 6 and day 7 of their self-isolation period. Those who receive two negative test results are no longer required to complete 10 full days of self-isolation.

The first test must be taken no earlier than day 6 of the self-isolation period and tests must be taken 24 hours apart. This also applies to children under 5, with LFD testing at parental or guardian discretion. If both these test results are negative, and you do not have a high temperature, you may end your self-isolation after the second negative test result and return to your education or childcare setting from day 7. **Anyone who is unable to take LFD tests will need to complete the full 10-day period of self-isolation.**

## **Ventilation in classrooms**

We continue to keep windows open around school for ventilation purposes. It has been a little chilly on occasions this week so please ensure your child has plenty of thin layers under their uniform to keep them warm. We prefer to keep their coats to wear at breaktimes.

## **Spring Term Sports Clubs**

All children that applied for places in the spring term sports clubs have been allocated a place, including those applying for Primary Influence clubs. We still have a few spare places in Y1/2 dance club and approx. 10 spaces in Y3/4 gymnastics club. Please contact the school office for further details.

## **Charity Support 2021-22**

Following School Council discussions with children across all year groups, our pupil body have voted to support Cancer Research and The Island York as our nominated charities this year. Here is a little piece of information about each chosen charity.

**Cancer Research** funds scientists, doctors and nurses to help beat cancer sooner. The charity also provides cancer information to the public.

**The Island York** provides space and time for vulnerable children and young people; building confidence, self-esteem and unlocking potential through positive mentoring relationships and unique programmes. Most of the young people at The Island live chaotic lives, many growing up in poverty and neglect. Their volunteer mentors provide 'normality' and stability, helping build confidence and self-esteem.

## **KS1 - Little Wandle and Collins E-library**

As per letters sent out last half term, you have all received your log-ins for the Little Wandle E-library alongside the instructions and parent guide for using the E-library. We hope you are enjoying listening to your child read the books, which have been assigned to them according to their secure phonics knowledge. Whilst we appreciate it has been a busy time of year, we are aware that there are many parents who haven't yet logged on to the library and we would just urge you all to do so, so that you can see what books your child is following in school. Please note: the first new books for Spring term will be issued next week.

As well as accessing the E-library by the internet (<https://ebooks.collinsopenpage.com/>), you can also download the 'Collins eBooks app', which is available for iOS from the App Store. The app is free to download, and you can log in using the same details. Unfortunately, the app for Android is not yet ready; however, they are in the process of developing this, which will support users of Big Cat.

**If anyone has any issues with being able to access the E-library, due to device connectivity issues or because you have lost the log-ins, or because you are having problems viewing the books that are on your virtual bookshelf, then please do let us know and we will do our best to help.**

Mrs Elliott  
(Phonics and Early Reading Leader)

### **Parentview Reminder**

I would be really grateful if you could take 10 minutes to complete the Parentview questionnaire on Ofsted's website, with regard to our school. So far, we only have 12 responses.

We are expecting an inspection soon and this is the main source which Ofsted use when gathering parents' views ahead of any inspection. It is a really quick and simple process and your feedback will really help provide Ofsted with information when considering their judgements, and will really help school with our preparation for any prospective visit.

The survey can be found on the link below or on the Parent tab of our school website.

<https://parentview.ofsted.gov.uk/login?destination=give-your-views/survey/186469>

Please note, there are two Dunnington primary schools. Please ensure you are completing the survey for the one in York! Thank you so much in advance for your assistance and time.

With very best wishes,



Caroline Hancy