

St. Peter's Church of England Primary School, Heswall Thurstaston Road, Heswall, Wirral CH60 4SA Tel: 0151 342 2556 email: schooloffice@stpeters-heswall.wirral.sch.uk Headteacher: Mr D Jones www.stpeters-heswall.wirral.sch.uk firm foundations, shining bright



31<sup>st</sup> August 2021

Dear Parents / Carers,

I hope you have all had a lovely, relaxing summer holiday and have all spent some quality family time together. I am hoping that this academic year will be a little more normal and there will be less disruption for us all – fingers crossed! I am looking forward to hearing about the children's summer holidays and I hope that everyone is looking forward to returning to school!

From Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> September, school will revert to our normal start and finish times – 8.50am - 3.30pm. Parents are welcome to wait on the school playground, once the bell rings at 8.50am the Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2 doors will open. Children can come into school and go straight to their classroom, where their teacher will be waiting to welcome them. Children in class 1/2C and 2HW can enter school via the Key Stage 1 doors at the side of the main school building and those children in Key Stage 2 can enter via the staircase on the playground. Children who are in class 1C and Pre-school can be taken straight to their classrooms. At the end of the school day (3.30pm) class teachers will bring the children onto the playground to meet their parents.

A separate letter from Mrs Birmingham will be sent to those parents of children in Foundation Stage detailing the start and end of day procedures for the new term.

Can I just remind parents there is road works at the bottom of School Hill which may cause problems during drop off and pick up times.

Currently we have had no updated guidance from the government so we will resume as normal. I will keep you updated if I receive any changes that you need to know about. I have included below some information sent from public health just for your information.

#### CHANGES TO NATIONAL SELF-ISOLATION GUIDANCE

From 16 August, the Government has said that people aged under 18 years and 6 months or adults who are fully vaccinated will no longer be legally required to isolate if they are a close contact of someone with COVID-19. Instead, such people will be advised to get a PCR test unless they have had a positive PCR test in the previous 90 days.

Regardless of age or vaccination status, anyone who develops any of the three main COVID-19 symptoms (see below) must get a PCR test as soon as possible and isolate until the result is available. People who get a positive PCR test must continue to isolate as usual. You can take a PCR test at one of our testing centres in Birkenhead, Bebington, Liscard and Heswall or request one to be delivered to your home Get a free PCR test to check if you have coronavirus (COVID-19) - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)

## <u>Frequently Asked Questions:</u> What should I do if my child develops COVID-19 symptoms?

The main symptoms of COVID-19 are:

- new continuous cough and/or
- fever (temperature of 37.8°C or higher)
- loss of or change in, normal sense of taste or smell (anosmia)

If your child develops any of these symptoms, you must arrange for them to have a PCR test as soon as possible. A PCR test can be arranged via NHS UK (www.nhs.uk) or by contacting NHS 119 via telephone if you do not have internet access.

Your child should self-isolate immediately and they should not attend school.

Please contact the school by phone to inform us your child has COVID-19 symptoms and you are awaiting a COVID-19 test.

## What should I do if my child has COVID-19 confirmed by PCR test?

Anyone with COVID-19 confirmed by PCR test should self-isolate until the latest of:

- 10 days after the onset of their symptoms, or
- 10 days after their test day if they are asymptomatic

Self-isolation means your child should not go to school, attend any out of school activities or visit a friend's house. They should not visit any public places, use public transport or go out to exercise. You should not have visitors into the home except for those providing essential care.

Please contact the school by phone and inform us your child has COVID-19 confirmed by PCR test. It is really important you let us know if your child has confirmed COVID-19 so we can monitor the number of children with COVID-19 across the school.

## What should I do if my child is a contact of someone with COVID-19 confirmed by PCR test?

If your child is aged under 18 years and 6 months and does not have any symptoms of COVID-19 (high temperature, new continuous cough, loss of or change in, normal sense of taste or smell) they do not have to self-isolate as a contact of COVID-19. They are advised to have a PCR test unless they have had a positive PCR test in the last 90 days.

Children aged 5 and under are not advised to take a PCR test unless the confirmed case is someone in their own household.

#### What should I do if my child has a positive result on a lateral flow device test?

If your child has a positive result on a lateral flow device test, they should self-isolate immediately and you should arrange a PCR test as soon as possible. Other members of the household do not need to self-isolate whilst you await the PCR test result if they do not have symptoms and are aged under 18 years and 6 months or are fully vaccinated.

# What should I do if my child is unwell with signs of an infection but does not have symptoms of COVID-19?

Your child should not attend school if they are unwell. If concerned you should seek advice from your GP or Pharmacist, they will be able to advise you how long your child should stay off school. Otherwise we would recommend exclusion for 48 hours or until the child is symptom free, whichever is longer. We are not currently advising that preschool children get a PCR test if they do not have the three main symptoms of COVID-19.

Thank you for your continued support.

Yours sincerely,

Darren Jones Headteacher