

Dear Parents

I hope you are all well and have had a restful half term. Please find details below of how we plan to move forward in the next few weeks and some reminders of what is still to come this half term

COVID update

As I am sure you are aware the government have eased the remaining restrictions in a bid to move forward in the COVID pandemic.

Following a governors meeting on Thursday we have decided to avoid any disruption to your working life we will keep the times of the school start and finish the same until the end of this half term.

I will be sending a survey out to you this week to gain your views on school timings moving towards the summer term.

COVID has not gone away and we still need to remain extremely vigilant and ensure that we keep each other safe.

Please see the **government** guidance for schools below:

The main symptoms of COVID-19 are a recent onset of any of the following:

- a new continuous cough
- a high temperature
- a loss of, or change in, your normal sense of taste or smell (anosmia)

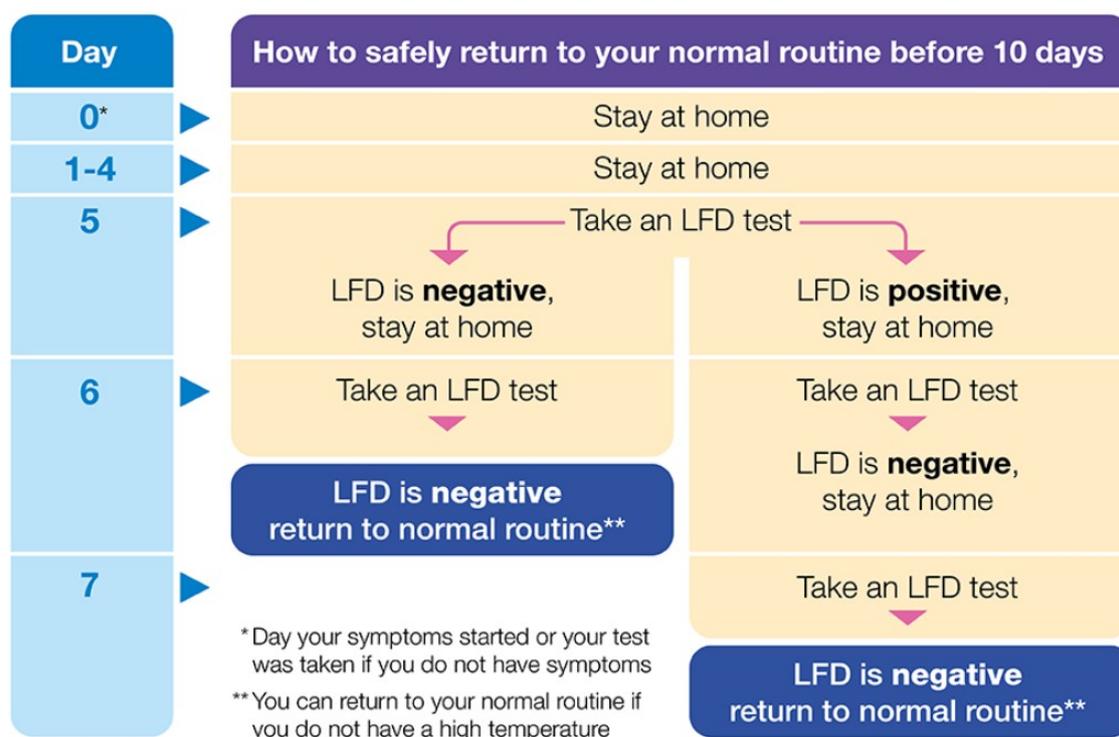
If you have any of these symptoms you [should order a PCR test](#). You are advised to stay at home and avoid contact with other people while you are waiting for the test result.

There is [additional guidance](#) for people who have been informed by the NHS that they are at highest risk of becoming severely unwell and who might be eligible for new COVID-19 treatments.

Other symptoms linked with COVID-19 include shortness of breath, fatigue, loss of appetite, muscle ache, sore throat, headache, stuffy or runny nose, diarrhoea, nausea and vomiting. Any of these symptoms may also have another cause.

Adults and children who test positive will continue to be advised to stay at home and avoid contact with other people. After 5 days, they may choose to take a Lateral Flow Device (LFD) followed by another the next day - if both are negative, and they do not have a temperature, they can safely return to their normal routine. Those who test positive should avoid contact with anyone in an at risk group, including if they live in the same household. “

How to safely return to your normal routine before 10 days



If your child displays symptoms they must not attend school and are advised to get a test.

In school we will still continue to ensure that our communication with yourselves remains a priority, ventilation in the school, high standards of cleaning and handwashing are maintained. Any new cases will reported to Public Health England who will advise us as they have done throughout the past 2 years as to whether we need to add additional restrictions in school.

Holidays during term time

The Department for Education allows a Head Teacher the discretion to consider authorising a leave of absence in term time, only in 'exceptional circumstances'. I appreciate that COVID has caused many problems with families booking holidays and having them cancelled through no fault of your own.

However, our school, whilst acknowledging that each family's circumstances are different, is dedicated to the education of all our pupils and believes regular attendance through the year is essential to every child's success.

If you are intending to take your child out of school you must request a holiday form which is available from the office. The information requested is in line with Cumbria County Council guidance.

Parents evening

Parent's evening appointments will be sent to you next week. We are giving you the option of either a face to face appointment or a telephone consultation.

If you could simply message me via the clasdojo with your preference I will allocate appointment times next week.

Dates for Diaries

Tuesday 1 st March	Air Ambulance collection (Bags to be dropped off before 10am)
Wednesday 2 nd March	Ash Wednesday (Beginning of Lent)
Thursday 3 rd March	World Book Day
Monday 14 th -18 th March	Science Week
Friday 18 th March	Red Nose Day
Monday 21 st March (no clubs this week)	Parents Evening Rec/Y1 More info to follow
Tuesday 22 nd March (no clubs this week)	Parents Evening Y2 More info to follow
Wednesday 23 rd March (no clubs this week)	Parents Evening Y3/4 More info to follow
Thursday 24 th March (no clubs this week)	Parents Evening Y5/6 More info to follow
Tuesday 29 th March	Y2 (Palm Sunday) (Zoom invites to be sent)
Wednesday 30 th March	Y1/Rec (Washing of the Feet) (Zoom invites to be sent)
Thursday 31 st March	Y3/4 (Last Supper) (Zoom invites to be sent)
Friday 1 st April	Y5/6 (Crucifixion) (Zoom invites to be sent)
School Closes Friday 1 st April and reopens Wednesday 20 th April 2022	

Again I would like to say a huge thank you to you all for your support. I know how difficult things have been and I will strive to support you all in the best way I can.

Many Thanks

Claire Birkett