

Bishop Road Primary School

Bishop Road, Bristol BS7 8LS



Head Teacher: Gillian Powe

Deputy Head Teacher: Joe Emissah

Friday 16th July 2021

Dear Parents / Carers,

Update Letter

As we approach the final days of term, we look back on this academic year with a range of emotions and some distinct memories. We also look forward to 2021/22 with the hope of a more settled time for our children's schooling and for families, who have participated more than ever in the education of their children this year. Thank you for your support as we continue to manage a range of competing challenges and work to provide the best possible offer to the children of Bishop Road.

Step 4 – Covid update

With the government confirming the move to Step 4 of their roadmap from Monday 19th July, there are some changes that impact families from midnight on Sunday. **From Monday morning, contacts will be identified via NHS Test and Trace and education settings will no longer undertake contact tracing.** As with positive cases in any other setting, NHS Test and Trace will work with the positive case to identify close contacts. Contacts from a school setting will only be traced by NHS Test and Trace where the positive case specifically identifies the individual as being a close contact.

Pupils, staff and other adults should continue to follow [public health advice](#) on when to self-isolate and what to do. They should 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).

If anyone in school develops COVID-19 symptoms, however mild, they will continue to be sent home and expected to follow public health advice.

- From 16 August 2021, children under the age of 18 years old will no longer be required to self-isolate if they are contacted by NHS Test and Trace as a close contact of a positive COVID-19 case.
- Instead, children 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.
- Staff and pupils with a positive LFD test result should self-isolate in line with the stay at home guidance. They will also need to get a free PCR test to check if they have COVID19.



- 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.

To clarify, the latest government guidance for Step 4 (which comes into force on the 19th of July) does not remove the requirement to isolate for the full ten days. Changes to isolation requirements come into force on the 16th of August.

With only three days left of the term, we will not be revising our risk assessment or advice about face coverings in school until we return in September.

September

In line with the latest government advice, we are developing plans for September that reflect more normal organisational arrangements for our school, as well as an outbreak management plan should we be required to implement more strict control measures.

In September, we will be reverting to the following drop off and collection timings for all year groups:

8.35 – 8.50 am drop off window

3.30 pm collection time

On Tuesday 31st August, we will send all families our finalised plans that will detail the specific arrangements for each year group with regards to drop off and collection as well as other information about school organisation. The timing change will impact the **new Reception children's phased entry.** **All 3:15 pm collection times (detailed in the info sent out earlier this month) will move to 3:30pm.**

End of term

On Wednesday 21st July children are invited to bring in a toy or a game. We recommend something that can be enjoyed with a classmate. Please do not send in items that require mains power, expensive items or screen based devices. There will also be class parties on this day, where children are invited to bring in a plate of party food for themselves. Children will not be sharing food so please ensure they only bring what they would like to eat themselves. School meals will be served as usual on the day.

It has been highly entertaining to see so many inventive and colourful hairstyles alongside the head adornments that children have been wearing. Thank you for all the contributions that will go to the PTFA.

Thank you for your support.

Yours sincerely,

Joe Emissah

Deputy Head Teacher

