



Jarrow Cross
Church of England
Primary School
Borough Road, Jarrow, Tyne and Wear NE32 5UW
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Friday 23rd July

Dear Parents Carers,

I hope you have been able to enjoy the beautiful weather we have been having over the last week. Hopefully it will continue into the holidays, but unfortunately I am not convinced!

In our last newsletter of the year I would just like to give you a few reminders for next term. The children will return to school on Tuesday 7th September. As I wrote in my previous letter we will now be operating a drop off system between 8.45am and 9am. Your child will simply enter school via their allocated door and go straight into class. The school day will end at 3.10pm for Reception and KS1 and 3.20pm for Year 3, 4, 5 and 6 and children will be collected from the door at which they entered.

Also next term the children will continue to come to school in their PE Kits on their allocated PE day. I am sure you will agree that this has been very successful, so will continue next year. Please remember that PE Kit as in accordance with our uniform code consists of a white T shirt, black shorts/ jogging bottoms and red school jumper.

I appreciate that you will have read a lot in the press recently about changes to Track and Trace and school procedures come September. Further information from The Local Authority will follow this letter. Can I also just clarify unless the guidance changes schools will not be operating a bubble system in September. The children will be allowed to mix freely with one another just as before COVID. We will however, still be promoting good hygiene rules such as handwashing and regular cleaning of tables etc.

A big thank you for the support you have given Mr Taggart throughout this last term, whilst I have been working at Simonside. It really has been invaluable. Can I just confirm that I will be at Jarrow Cross full time from September, as my role at Simonside has now come to an end.



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Finally, I would just like to take the opportunity to thank you as always for your unwavering support to both myself and all of the staff throughout yet another very difficult year. As last year the way in which the whole community has come together is a testament to you all.

I hope you all have a lovely summer break and I look forward to seeing you all in September.

Take care,

Mrs McBeth



Date: 23rd July 2021

Letter to parents, carers or guardians

Dear Parents/carers,

Re: Guidance for contact tracing of Positive COVID-19 cases over the holidays and the new term

As you know, the Prime Minister announced on 12 July that Step 4 of the roadmap would go ahead on 19 July.

One of the key changes that will take place from the start of the holidays is that education and childcare settings will no longer be asked to conduct routine contact tracing. As with positive cases in any other setting, NHS Test and Trace will work with either the positive case – or in the case of children – the parents, carers or guardian of the positive case to identify close contacts.

NHS Test and Trace already manages the contact tracing process for the rest of society – including children who have recorded a positive PCR test – and has expertise in supporting people to identify close contacts.

This letter sets out in more detail below how that process will work and what you need to do if your child tests positive for COVID-19.

Self-isolating and taking a test

1. If your child has symptoms, they and other members of the household should self-isolate – and you should inform their education or childcare setting. You should immediately order a PCR test for them. If the PCR result is negative, they and other members of their household can stop self-isolating (unless instructed to self-isolate for other reasons). If the PCR result is positive, they, other members of their household and any close contacts identified by NHS Track and Trace must self-isolate until 10 days after the onset of symptoms.

2. If your child has a positive result from a lateral flow device (LFD) test, they and other members of the household should self-isolate – and you should inform their education or childcare setting. You should immediately order a confirmatory PCR test. If the confirmatory test is taken within two days and the result is negative, they and other members of their household can stop self-isolating (unless instructed to self-isolate for other reasons). If the confirmatory PCR test is positive (or is taken more than two days after the LFD), other members of their household and any close contacts identified by NHS Track and Trace must self-isolate until 10 days after the LFD test.

3. PCR tests can be booked online through the NHS Test & Trace website or by calling 119.

4. PCR test results will be recorded with NHS Test and Trace automatically, but you should also communicate the result to the education or childcare setting during term time or summer provision.

Contact tracing

5. If your child gets a positive PCR test result, NHS Test and Trace will contact you, using the details you registered when ordering the PCR test. You and/or your child will be asked a series of specific questions designed to identify who your child has been in close contact with. Being in an education or childcare setting with someone who has tested positive for COVID-19 will not necessarily mean a person is identified as a close contact.

6. You will be asked to provide the contact details, if you know them, of any of the individuals – or their parents or guardians – who have been identified as close contacts. NHS Test and Trace will then get in touch with these close contacts and provide appropriate instructions or advice (see below).

Self-isolation and/or testing of close contacts

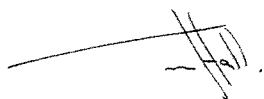
7. At present, anyone identified as a close contact is legally required to self-isolate and must not attend their education or childcare setting (the only exception is if they are participating in a daily contact testing trial). Anyone identified as a non-household close contact by NHS Track and Trace must self-isolate until 10 days after the date of their most recent contact with that person. If they live in the same household, they must self-isolate until 10 days after the date of that person developing symptoms (see point 1 above) or, if that person was asymptomatic, the date of their test (see point 2 above). NHS Test and Trace will notify you of the day on which the self-isolation period ends.

8. Close contacts are also advised to take a PCR test. If the test result is negative, they must still complete the full self-isolation period, as the test will not detect all positive cases. If the result is positive, they will need to self-isolate for a further 10 days – and NHS Test and Trace will contact them to identify any close contacts.

9. From 16 August, if the close contact is under 18, they will not have to self-isolate (in line with the policy for fully vaccinated adults) but will be asked to take an PCR test immediately, other than for very young children identified as non-household contacts, and they will not need to self-isolate while awaiting the results of the test. If the PCR test is positive, they will be required to self-isolate for 10 days from the date of the test. NHS Test and Trace will then get in touch to identify close contacts (see points 5 and 6 above). Further guidance on these changes to self-isolation will be provided shortly.

We recognise how difficult the past 18 months have been and the sacrifices that all families, education and childcare settings have had to make. This has been an enormously challenging time for everyone, and we would like to take the opportunity to thank you for everything you have done.

Regards

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Tom Hall', with a horizontal line extending to the left.

Tom Hall
Director of Public Health

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Beverley Scanlon', written in a cursive style.

Beverley Scanlon
Head of Learning and Early Help