

Royd Nursery Infant School

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Headteacher: Louise Jones

1 September 2021

Dear Parents/Carers,

I hope you have all had a super, well deserved and relaxing break over the past weeks. I am sure, like the staff, you are keen to get the school year started.

I am writing to you regarding the COVID guidance for schools and how they will work. There has not been any major changes announced that are different to my previous correspondence in July.

As a principle, we are starting the year off cautiously. Experience of the pandemic, tells us that taking our time is the wisest course. We are keen to get back to normal as quickly as possible, but let’s get back safely, open safely and take a measured approach.

**Contact Tracing**

NHS Test and Trace will complete the contract tracing when there is a positive PCR result. 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. This is likely to be a small number of individuals who would be most at risk of contracting COVID-19 due to the nature of the close contact.

Children/ families who are contacted by NHS Test and Trace and informed they have been in close contact with a positive case will be advised and encouraged to take a PCR test. ***Individuals are not required to self-isolate*** if they live in the same household as someone with COVID-19, or are a close contact of someone with COVID-19, and any of the following apply:

* they are fully vaccinated
* they are below the age of 18 years and 6 months
* they have taken part in or are currently part of an approved COVID-19 vaccine trial
* they are not able to get vaccinated for medical reasons

Instead, they 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](https://www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test). We would encourage all individuals to take a PCR test if advised to do so.

We would please ask all parents/carers to contact school if their child or household member has tested positive or has symptoms. Over the past year parent/carers have been superb at keeping us informed and we hope this will continue to help school identify any possible Covid outbreaks at the earliest opportunity.

Staff who do not need to isolate, and children and young people aged under 18 years 6 months who usually attend school, and have been identified as a close contact, should continue to attend school as normal.

**Control Measures**

Schools need to ensure the following measures are implemented and maintained;

1. Ensure good hygiene for everyone.

Frequent and thorough hand cleaning should now be regular practice. Schools should continue to ensure that pupils clean their hands regularly. This can be done with soap and water or hand sanitiser.

Respiratory hygiene - The ‘catch it, bin it, kill it’ approach continues to be very important.

1. Maintain appropriate cleaning regimes.

Schools must maintain appropriate cleaning regimes. This should include regular cleaning of areas and equipment (for example, twice per day), with a particular focus on frequently touched surfaces.

1. Keep occupied spaces well ventilated.
2. Follow public health advice on testing, self-isolation and managing confirmed cases of COVID-19.

When an individual develops COVID-19 symptoms or has a positive test, pupils, staff and other adults should 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.** If anyone in school develops COVID-19 symptoms, however mild should be sent home and they should follow public health advice.

**Start and End Times**

We have found the staggered start and end times beneficial from a safety point of view and parking. It has not hindered the education of children so we plan to keep staggered start times and review as we go through the year.

Nursery, Year1 and Year 2 children will all enter through the main gate. Reception children will use the gate near the school office.

The gate between Royd Nursery Infant and Deepcar St John’s will be reopened.

**School Times**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Year Group** | **Start Time** | | **End time** | |
| **FS1/Nursery**  **(start of the week)** | **Mon & Tues**  **Wed** | 9 am – 9.10 am  8.30am – 8.40 am | **Mon & Tues**  **Wed** | 3.00 pm  11.30 am |
| **FS1/Nursery**  **(end of the week)** | **Wed**  **Thur & Fri** | 12pm  9am – 9.10am | **Wed to Fri** 3.00 pm | |
| **FS1/Nursery**  **(full time)** | **Mon to Fri** | 9am – 9.10am | **Mon to Fri** | 3.00 pm |

**Nursery**

**School times for Reception, Y1 and Y2**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Year Group** | **Start Time** | **End time** |
| **FS2/Reception** | 8.40am – 8.50am | 3.15pm |
| **Y1/Y2** | 8.45am – 8.55am | 3.20pm |

**Contacting School**

If you need to ask a question or discuss something with school or the teacher, we would ask that you make contact in the first instance by phone or email. Any messages will be passed on to teachers at the beginning of the day.

**Illness**

Please do not send your child to school if they are displaying COVID-19 symptoms. They will still need to get a PCR test. Parents/carers need to work with Track and Trace and follow all guidance. Should a pupil develop a persistent cough and/or a temperature whilst at school, they will be isolated until a parent/carer is able to collect them.

**Uniform**

Please ensure your child wears named, clean and the correct uniform every day.

**PE**

The School PE policy requires your child to wear a PE kit as part of PE lessons. Children will need shorts and a t-shirt for indoor PE and trainers/pumps, tracksuit bottoms and a jumper for outdoor PE. PE kit should be kept in a named bag and left on their peg. There will be a PE notice on the parents notice board to notify you which days PE lessons take place.

**Assemblies**

In the first instance assemblies will take place within year group with a view to change this in the first few weeks.

**Playtimes**

At the start of the year

* Nursery will play in their own yard
* FS2/Reception will use their own yard
* Y1/2 will play together in the main school yard.

After school clubs

After school clubs will continue for children in FS2, Year 1 and Year 2. Letters will follow in due course.

Yours sincerely,



Louise Jones Sean Sly

Executive Head Acting Deputy Head



