

# Le Cateau

## Community Primary School



# RETURN TO SCHOOL

Information for parent/carers on the return to school

## January 2022

## CONTACT US

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# RETURNING AFTER CHRISTMAS BREAK

Although Covid numbers have been rising and the national picture is challenging, we are pleased to be welcoming the children back to school for the Spring Term!



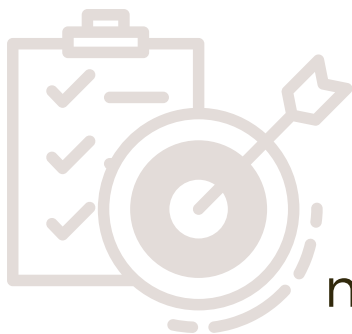
## LATEST GOVERNMENT GUIDANCE

The Department for Education provided an update for all education settings on Sunday 2nd January. Many of the protective measures remain the same and we will continue to implement these as a school. There are some additional updates that are explained later in this guide.



## OUR MAIN AIM

The best place for children to learn is in school! It is clear that the past 20 months have had a huge impact on the lives of many especially the children. We are aiming for consistency and to maintain as higher level of face to face teaching as we possibly can.



# WHEN DOES SCHOOL REOPEN?

School reopens for all pupils on **Wednesday 5th January 2022**. This is applicable to all pupils in all year groups unless you have been instructed to self isolate or have a positive result of Covid.



# HAVE THE SCHOOL TIMES CHANGED?

The measures we had in place previously continue to work well therefore the timings for the school day are unchanged.

**FS2 to Year 6 - Gates are open at 8:50am & children MUST be in the building by 9am!**

**FS1 am/30hour session - Gates open at 8:40am and start at 8:45am**



## AROUND THE SCHOOL SITE - PARENTS

Drop and go remains the key message! With more people present around the school site, we ask that parents literally '**drop and go**' rather than standing around and chatting.

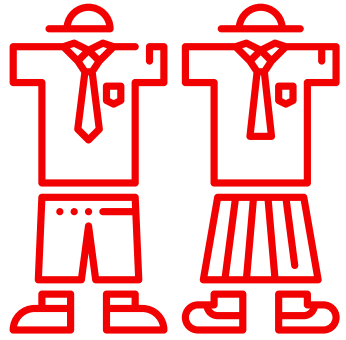
We continue to limit parental access to the building for safety purposes.



## FACE MASKS AT DROP OFF AND COLLECTION?



As people will be mixing more around the school site, there is the potential for increased transmission of Covid therefore we **STRONGLY** encourage parents to wear face coverings at drop off and collection times. School based staff will be wearing masks at the front of school.



## IN AND AROUND SCHOOL FOR PUPILS

Face masks **are not** required for pupils in school - this only applies to secondary schools.

Ventilation is maintained throughout the day meaning the building may be cooler than it normally is. As previously discussed, pupils are able to bring an additional top/hoodie/clothing to wear if they are feeling cold during the day. Base layers were very effective before the Christmas break!

*Nb. Normal uniform still applies*

## CHILD DISPLAYING SYMPTOMS IN SCHOOL

If your child starts to present Covid symptoms whilst they are in school, we will make contact with you at the earliest opportunity and request you collect your child and take them for a PCR test. From experience, symptoms develop during the day and have resulted in positive outcomes.



## HYGIENE MEASURES

Regular hand washing and sanitising remain in place to ensure we are doing everything we can to prevent the spread.



# UPDATED RULES ON ISOLATION

The 10-day self-isolation period **for those who record a positive PCR test result** for Covid-19 has been reduced to seven days in most circumstances, unless you cannot test for any reason.

Individuals may now take rapid lateral flow tests on day six and day seven of their self-isolation period. If those test **results on day 6 and day 7 are negative**, they no longer have to complete 10 full days of self-isolation and can return to school.

## ISOLATION RULES FOR CLOSE CONTACTS

As before, those who are fully vaccinated, or pupils and young people aged between 5 and 18 and a half, who have been identified as a close contact of someone with Covid, should take a lateral flow test **every day for seven days** and, unless they have a positive test result or develop symptoms at any time, they should continue to attend their setting as normal.

Children under the age of 5 should not do a daily test or self-isolate and should attend their provision unless they receive a positive PCR test result.



# WHAT ARE THE MEASURES TO KEEP AS MANY PUPILS IN SCHOOL AS POSSIBLE?

The DFE has recognised that where staff absences are substantial, avoiding remote learning would be 'impossible'. However, the desire is to have as many pupils receiving face-to-face teaching as is practically possible.

Some additional measures that we may need to implement include;

- combining class groups to ensure pupils remain in school if teacher absence is high due to Covid. For example, if a Year 3 teacher is absent, we may need to merge the 3 classes into 2 classes for the period of absence. This measure is more difficult in Foundation Stage and Year 1 & 2 due to class size restrictions of 30.
- Teachers may be redeployed for a period of time to cover classes elsewhere in school.
- Redeploy Higher Level Teaching Assistants to cover the teaching for a short period.
- Additional supply teachers will be utilised (currently a challenge to get supply).

**If the situation becomes unmanageable and safety levels are compromised then a period of remote learning will be implemented.**



# WHAT HAPPENS IF MY CHILD IS ISOLATING OR REMOTE LEARNING IS REQUIRED?

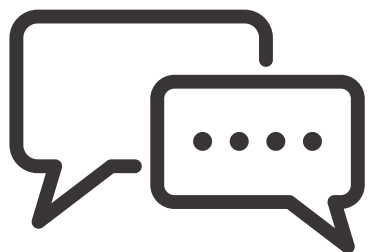
If a child is self isolating due to testing positive, daily learning will be available as per our [remote learning plan](#) which is available on the school website. As long as the child is not ill, they will be expected to undertake the learning set. Learning is to be accessed in the following ways;

- Learning activities will be set via Seesaw to complete at home and uploaded prior to the school day commencing.
- A number of 'Live' sessions will be delivered throughout the day via Microsoft Teams with an invite being sent to your child through their class page. Your child's teacher will support you in setting this up. The Remote Learning Policy (website) clearly outlines the expectations.

If a particular class or year group are required to undertake a period of 'remote learning' for a certain reason then the plan for daily 'live' teaching will be communicated with you at the time. Teams and Seesaw will be used to deliver any teaching.







# COMMUNICATING WITH SCHOOL

If in doubt, please get in touch with us!

The best way is to either call the school office or to use the dedicated email address;

[covid@le-cateau.n-yorks.sch.uk](mailto:covid@le-cateau.n-yorks.sch.uk)

Please **do not** rely on Seesaw as a form of communication - teachers may not be able to access Seesaw during the school day as they are teaching.

