



Isaac Newton Primary School  
Dysart Road  
Grantham  
NG31 7DG  
01476 568616  
enquiries@isaacnewton-cit.co.uk  
www.isaacnewton-cit.co.uk

### **Return to School September 2021**

Dear Parent/Carers

I would like to wish you all a warm welcome back to school for what will hopefully be a more 'normal' school year for everyone! As you will no doubt be aware, on 19th July, the country moved to Step 4 of the roadmap and as such guidance for schools was updated. A letter has already been sent out to you from Community Inclusive Trust (CIT) outlining some of the Covid-19 protocols which will be changing across all of the Trust's schools in light of this new guidance.

As stated in the letter, I am also writing to you to outline some of the changes that you need to be aware of as well as those measures that will remain in place from 6<sup>th</sup> September 2021.

#### **Positive Cases, Self-Isolation & Contact Tracing**

- Your child is only required to self-isolate if you are contacted directly by NHS Test and Trace and told to do so. Children under the age of 18 and those over the age of 18 who have received two vaccinations are no longer required to self-isolate if they come into contact with someone who tests positive for Covid-19.
- The school will no longer close a class in the event of a positive test result. If your child tests positive for Covid-19 then they should still self-isolate in-line with Government guidance and you should inform the school of this as soon as possible.
- In the event of a positive test result, we WILL send out a letter to Parents/Carers of children within this class to inform them of this. However, we cannot provide any details beyond this letter such as who the child is and where they sit within the classroom. Should you have any concerns about a positive case within school then please speak directly to Mr Heathcote or Mrs Pask.

#### **Attendance & Remote Learning**

- School attendance is compulsory for ALL pupils and your child should only be absent from school for approved reasons e.g. medical appointments & illness. Attendance will be managed in-line with our 'Attendance and Registration Policy' which is available on our school website. If the school has concerns regarding your child's attendance then you will be contacted directly by Mrs Pask.
- If your child is absent from school due to testing positive for Covid-19 then they will be provided with school work via Microsoft Teams for the duration of their self-isolation. Further support with accessing this will be provided when informing the school office of a positive test result.
- Your child should continue to attend school as normal if a person within their household tests positive for Covid-19. The Government advises that they take a precautionary PCR test and that you monitor them carefully for any possible symptoms. Lateral flow tests are NOT recommended for children of primary school age.

#### **School Routines**

- There will no longer be a one-way system in place. Parents/ carers can enter and exit using both gates.
- Staggered start and finish times will be removed. School will start at **8.50am for all pupils**. School finish times will be as follows:
  - EYFS: 3.20pm
  - Years 1 & 2: 3.25pm
  - Years 3- 6: 3.30pm
- Whole school events will restart again such as assemblies, workshops & performances. For the time being, singing assemblies will only take place in phase groups (Years 1 and 2/ Years 3 and 4/ Years 5 and 6). This will be kept under continual review.
- Staff will no longer be required to wear face coverings in communal areas and corridors. Visitors will also no longer be expected to wear a face covering when moving around the school site.
- Extra-curricular clubs, school trips, musical tuition, breakfast club and other similar activities will re-start again.

### **Protective Measures**

- 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 or have had a positive test result. The most common symptoms of COVID-19 are 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 anyone develops Covid-19 symptoms whilst at school then they will be sent home until a PCR test has been undertaken.
- School staff will continue to complete lateral flow tests twice a week as part of our asymptomatic testing.
- The school will continue to ensure good hygiene for everyone, maintain appropriate cleaning regimes and keep occupied spaces well ventilated. Children will still be expected to wash or sanitise their hands at regular intervals throughout the day.
- If 5 pupils/ staff who are likely to have mixed closely with one another (e.g. are in the same class or group) all test positive within a 10 day period then this will be reported to Lincolnshire Public Health. The Health Protection Team will then advise us as to whether we need to take any further action in light of this.
- The school will continue to limit the sharing of equipment where possible. We will also ensure that, when appropriate, equipment is cleaned thoroughly between uses.
- Parents/ Carers should ensure that they have downloaded the 'E-Schools App' to ensure that they receive regular and up-to-date communications from school. If you require assistance with this then please contact the school office. New Parents/ Carers will receive a letter with their login details and password shortly.

### **PE Kit & Days**

- For the Autumn term PE days are as follows:
  - Monday- Classes 7 & 8
  - Tuesday- Classes 1, 5, 6, 9 & 10
  - Wednesday- Classes 3, 4, 11 & 12
  - Thursday- Classes 2, 13 & 14
- Children from EYFS- Year 4 should NOT come into school in their PE kit on PE days. They should instead bring their PE kit to school with them in a PE bag and they will get changed before session. PE bags can be left on pegs or in lockers during the week.
- Children in Year 5 and 6 will continue to come to school in their PE kit on PE days. This is because they have a shorter afternoon session due to their new lunchtime which does not finish until 1:45pm. Avoiding the need to get changed ensures that we can maximise time in PE sessions for the children in these year groups.
- Football strips should NOT be worn for PE sessions. Correct school PE kit is as follows:
  - Indoor: A plain/school black t-shirt, black sports shorts and a pair of plimsolls/trainers.
  - Outdoor: The above, a pair of suitable outdoor sports trainers, a pair of jogging bottoms and a warm sweater (also plain and black).

As always our school has an 'open door policy'. By this we mean that our staff are always happy to discuss any concerns that you may have regarding your child and want you to feel comfortable about communicating these with us. Teachers will be available at the start and at the end of the school day at their classroom doors however this can sometimes be a little 'hectic' due to the amount of children coming in or out. We would therefore encourage you contact your child's class teacher via the school office where possible. You can do this via email at [enquiries@isaacnewton-cit.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@isaacnewton-cit.co.uk) or via phone on 01476 568616. Your message will then be passed onto your child's class teacher and they will look to get back in touch with you as soon as possible to discuss your concerns.

Attached to this letter is a useful 'self-isolation flow diagram'. Should you require any further advice about this or anything else contained within this letter or have any concerns then please do not hesitate to get in touch with either Mr Heathcote or Mrs Pask via the school office.

Kind regards



Mr Heathcote  
Headteacher