

Newsletter ~ 25.09.20



One way system in school ~ we would like to thank everyone for adapting so quickly to the one way system in school. It has been working really well and we appreciate your effort in helping to keep the children, staff and yourselves as safe as possible. Can we please remind you to please socially distance while waiting to come in to school and as you leave the school gates?



Attendance and Punctuality



Thank you to everyone who is getting their child/children to school every day and on time.

Please be aware that if your child is not well enough to attend school, you are required to contact the school office on 0121 464 4255 by 08.55am on each day of absence. The only exception to this is if your child is self-isolating and you have already made us aware.

We will be carrying out safeguarding calls to pupils who are absent from school for more than one day and we will ask to speak with your child directly.

Please be reminded that school attendance is now mandatory and it is parental responsibility to ensure that their child is now back in school.

Pastoral Support

The pastoral team is now made up of Hayley, Mrs Stanley and Miss Smith, all of whom have enjoyed welcoming pupils back to school.




Should you require any additional support for your child and family or would like some general pastoral advice, please do not hesitate to get in touch with one of them and they will be more than happy to help.

As the weather is starting to get colder - please make sure children bring a coat. Please name your child's property - thank you.

Dojos ~ this is not to be used as a way of communicating with your child's teacher. Please either ring school or email parents@wychall.drbignitemat.org

Covid 19 Procedures

You will have received an important letter that was sent home on Thursday, from the NHS regarding **TEST & TRACE**. We've included it in this Newsletter as well. Please make sure you read it carefully as it contains key information. Thanks.



23 September 2020

Dear parents and guardians,

This is an important letter to share some information on how we can work together to make sure we can continue to give children and young people the best education in the safest way possible.

One important part of ensuring the safety and wellbeing of pupils, parents and our communities is testing for coronavirus. We all have a duty to make sure that the right people have access to get tested at the right time. Every time a test is used inappropriately, a person with Covid-19 symptoms may miss out on getting tested.

Therefore, I ask that you all follow these principles:

- You should only book a test if your child has any of these three coronavirus symptoms:
 1. **a high temperature:** any new high temperature where your child feels hot to touch on their chest or back (you do not need to measure the temperature)
 2. **a new continuous cough:** coughing a lot for more than an hour, or three or more coughing episodes in 24 hours
 3. **a loss of, or change in, sense of smell or taste:** a noticeable loss of smell or taste or things smell and taste different to normal
- Your child **does not need a test** if they have a runny nose, are sneezing or feeling unwell but do not have a temperature, cough or loss of, or change in, sense of smell or taste because these are not normally symptoms of coronavirus.
- If you are unsure about whether to get a test, please check the official list of symptoms on the NHS website, which is reviewed regularly: www.nhs.uk/cond/19nsc/coronavirus-covid-19/symptoms/
- Only the person with symptoms should get a test. You do not need to get a test for anyone else in the household unless they also have any of the three symptoms listed above. All members of the household need to self-isolate whilst waiting for the test result.

- If the person with symptoms' test comes back positive, other members of their household should continue self-isolating for 14 days and **only get a test if they develop coronavirus symptoms.**
- If a pupil in a class or bubble tests positive for coronavirus, anyone who is advised to self-isolate **does not require a test unless they subsequently develop symptoms.**

No one else in the same class or bubble as the symptomatic person needs to take any action unless advised by the school. Schools have detailed guidance and access to a Department for Education and Public Health England helpline for advice and support.

Contacts of a person who has tested positive must follow the guidance carefully and in full, which means they must stay at home for 14 days. This is because it can take several days following contact with an infected person before an individual develops symptoms or the virus can be detected. Students should only book a test if they get symptoms.

The NHS has produced some guidance to help parents understand when their child can and cannot attend school which you may find useful: <https://www.nhs.uk/its-walk-health/body-is-my-child-too-ill-for-school/>

It is vital for children's learning and future opportunities that they are able to return to school and college. It is therefore vitally important that all we work together and do our bit to make this possible.

Yours sincerely,



Professor Viv Bennett CBE

Chief Nurse and Director Maternity and Early Years | Public Health England

Head of World Health Organisation Collaborating Centre for Public Health Nursing and Midwifery

Follow me on Twitter: @VivJBennett



Dr Susan Hopkins

Interim Chief Medical Officer | NHS Test & Trace

Deputy Director | Public Health England

Consultant in Infectious Diseases & Microbiology
Royal Free, London

FLU IMMUNISATION FORM

As per the most recent guidelines, it is key that children receive the flu nasal spray immunisation to help prevent the spread of the winter flu to family members. This year ALL CHILDREN FROM RECEPTION TO YEAR 6 have the chance to receive the immunisation, simply complete & return the form to school by **FRIDAY 2.10.2020**. If you need another form, simply call school on **0121 464 4255** & we will be able to send one home with your child. Many thanks.

Universal Free School Meals

For a number of years now the children in **Reception, Year 1 and Year 2** have been entitled to a free lunch at School. The options are increasing all the time and we are hoping to be able to serve the full menu from Tuesday 3 November 2020. **Please note that there is a Teacher Training Day on Monday 2 November 2020 when school will be closed to pupils.** By choosing a lunch at school, it can save you time in the morning and could also save you over £400 per year.



Food allergies

Please make sure school knows of any allergies that your child may have. You can call school or email parents@wychall.drbigitemat.org¹ & we can send you the Chartwell's Allergy forms for you to complete & return to school. Thank you.

URGENT Year 6 Secondary School place applications ~ closing date is 31.10.20

Please see the letter from the Birmingham City Council regarding applying for your child's place at Secondary School.

¹<mailto:parents@jervoise.drbigitemat.org>



Doc ref: AACPLA0200

10 July 2020

Dear Parents/Carer,

Apply online for your child's secondary school place – September 2021

Your child is due to transfer from primary to secondary school in September 2021. Local authorities co-ordinate secondary transfer admissions for all publicly funded (not-free paying) schools. This means that parents/carers should apply to the local authority in which they live (the council to which they pay council tax).

If you live in Birmingham you should apply for your child's secondary school place online at www.birmingham.gov.uk/schooladmissions between 1 September and 31 October 2020. It is important that you submit your application by 31 October 2020. Applications received after the national closing date of 31 October 2020 will be treated as late applications. Late applications are less likely to be offered a place at one of their preferred schools and these applications will be processed after 1 March 2021 in accordance to Birmingham's coordinated admissions scheme.

We know it is an important time for you and your child and you should find out as much as you can about local schools and how the admissions process works before you make your application.

Information about the application process will be available on the council's website from 1 September 2020 www.birmingham.gov.uk/schooladmissions

The website includes information on the types of schools, how to apply online, how places are offered, information on the individual schools and their admissions arrangements and what to do if you are not offered one of your preferred schools. If you do not have a device that can access the internet, your child's primary school may be able to help you. You may also be able to access a computer via a friend or relative.

We also strongly advise you to visit the website of your preferred schools for further information about the school and for any related interactive online events, or details of any open days or evenings. You should also carefully consider how likely you are to be offered a place at one of your preferred schools. Find out more about the order in which places are offered (oversubscription order) by reading the information on the schools you are interested in. Please note that before completing your online application you must confirm that you have read the admissions arrangements.

You may also find useful information on the My Ed Website (www.myed.org) on your preferred schools.

If you are applying under the distance category, make sure you check the last distance an applicant was offered over the past three years (where applicable). While this cannot guarantee whether your application will be successful for September 2021, it will give an indication of whether you should consider including a school as one of your preferences.

We advise you to use all six preferences to maximise your chances of getting a place at one of the schools you prefer.

You can amend your school preferences on the online admissions form as many times as you like until the closing date of 31 October 2020. Please remember if you do make amendments to your original online admissions form that you must re-submit your application for the latest changes to take effect by selecting submit again. If you do not re-submit your application

www.birmingham.gov.uk/schooladmissions

after going back in to make changes, your previously submitted application will be disregarded accordingly.

Your application will be processed using the address currently held by your child's primary/junior school. Please note, if the address on your application differs to the address held on our database, you will be asked to send us proof of your correct address in the form of your most recent council tax bill for 2020/2021. If you do not provide adequate proof of address by the closing date of 31 October 2020 your child's application will not be processed.

You will receive an email confirming which school your child has been offered by the end of the day on Monday 1 March 2021.

If you have any questions about your child transferring to secondary school please visit www.leeds.gov.uk/schools/secondary where there are answers to the most commonly asked questions to help you through this process.

Yours sincerely,



Alan Mitchell
Head of School Admissions Service

Letter from Director of Public Health



24th September 2020

Dear parent/carer,

It's been wonderful to see children back at schools and early years settings, learning, playing and seeing their friends again. I know the past few months have been hard on all of us and I'd like to thank you for your continued support.

You will have seen some changes to the way your setting operates so I wanted to take this opportunity to remind you of why these are vital to its safe running; please remember that although many aspects of society have opened up again, although in a different way, the virus has not gone away.

While changes will vary from place to place, depending on such things as building layout and number of children, the differences you will notice could include:

- Staggered drop-off and collection at the start and end of the day to minimise the number of people at the building entrance.
- Children will be in 'bubbles' to reduce contact as much as possible, but allow them to play with friends.
- If a child or staff member within a bubble shows symptoms or is infected then the bubble may need to isolate, but the setting will communicate with parents if this happens.
- Asking children to wash their hands even more than usual, use hand sanitisers and follow any one-way systems while staying apart as much as possible.
- Fewer soft furnishings and less sharing of equipment and toys.

I know some of these changes may be hard to get used to, and they may be frustrating, but they are entirely in order to keep all children, staff and parents safe.

I would therefore ask for your continued patience and consideration as we all do our best to help each other get through this difficult and unusual time.

Managers and staff have been working so hard to ensure early years settings are a safe environment for learning and playing, so please do what you can to support them and each other and we will get through this.

Please also keep in mind that it is important that we all play our part in not going for a test unless we have one of the three covid symptoms, a temperature, new continuous cough or loss of sense of taste or smell, or if we are asked to by the NHS or public health teams.

If you have any questions or concerns, please speak direct to the manager of your child's setting – they are here to help.

Yours sincerely,



Dr Justin Varney
Director of Public Health
Birmingham City Council

Birmingham City Council
Director of Public Health
18 Woodcock Street
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B1 3LL

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Email : enquiry@wychall.dr.bignitemat.org

Website: Wychall Primary School²

²<http://www.wychall.bham.sch.uk>