

Welcome back to Dove Bank Primary



Organisation Guidance from September 2021

(Please note it is important all Parents read this information before their children return to school Thursday 2nd September)

Rationale:

Following the Government's move to 'step 4' in July and changes in the isolation rules from 16th August, new guidance for schools has been published. At Dove Bank Primary we have reviewed our covid safety measures in line with this national guidance and have also considered the unique nature of our setting and school community. As a result, we intend to keep in place (temporarily) several measures for the safety of our pupils. These additional measures will be reviewed at half term.

The new DfE guidance is clear that enhanced cleaning, hand hygiene and good ventilation should all remain in place next term and we will ensure that these remain a key part of our ongoing covid safety measures from 1st September.

Isolation rules from 16th August:

Children will no longer be required to automatically self-isolate, if they are contacted by NHS Test and Trace as a close contact of a positive covid-19 case. Instead, you may be advised to take your child for a PCR test if they have been deemed to be in close contact with a positive case. Please ensure you do this as quickly as possible, as your child will not be able to attend school.

It is important to note that any child who receives a positive PCR test will still be expected to isolate for 10 days and will not be able to attend school during that period. It is also important that you inform school as soon as possible should this occur.

What if a child displays Coronavirus symptoms at school?

- The child will be moved immediately to our isolation room.
- Their parents will be contacted in the first instance and must be collected straight away
- Parents must book a PCR test without delay and inform school of the outcomes as soon as they can (email headteacher@dovebank.staffs.sch.uk or telephone the school 01782 898015) School will inform the Staffordshire Local Outbreak team

Covid-19 Dove Bank Primary Safety Measures

- School start and finish times will revert back to 8.50am and 3.15pm for all KS1 and KS2 children (Reception and Nursery children arrangements remain unchanged from the information Mrs Hewitt sent to parents, just before we broke up for the summer break)
- Staggered break times and lunch times will temporarily remain in place
- Each child will continue to have their own daily stationery wallet with the essentials they need to reduce the sharing of equipment.
- Existing additional cleaning aides and measures in each classroom remain unchanged
- Hand sanitisers will remain in place throughout KS2
- Handwashing for a minimum of 20 seconds with soap and running water will be expected and monitored -
 - Before leaving home
 - On arrival at school
 - After using the toilet

- Before and after breaks
- Before and after eating food
- At regular intervals throughout the day
- Before going home
- Lunch in the hall will temporarily continue to be limited to 2 classes at any one time
- Children must only bring to school their coat, a sunhat (if necessary), a named plastic water bottle and their lunchbox. (Due to health and safety reasons children should not bring their own hand sanitiser to school)
- All school gates will be open for parents and children - this includes Lamb Street for KS1 and KS2 gate leading to the public footpath
- Communication via email and telephone will remain, face to face meetings will be limited
- We continue to politely ask parents not to enter the school building. All enquiries should be made at the school office

Arriving to School:

- All Year groups 1 to 6 should arrive at school for 8.50am (Reception and Nursery children arrangements remain unchanged from the information Mrs Hewitt sent to parents, just before we broke up for the summer break)
- KS1 or Early Years children and parents should use either the main school gate or Lamb Street gate
- KS2 children and parents should use either the main school gate or the side KS2 gate
- We request only one adult per family to limit the number of adults on site
- The wearing of face coverings/masks is no longer mandatory in England, however given the significant increase in adults on the school playground, we advise parents to wear one
- The area between KS1 and KS2 playgrounds (running alongside the hall) remains closed to parents - please observe signage

- We encourage parents of Y5 and Y6 children to wait outside the school perimeter and may, if they so wish, watch their child enter the school building
- KS1 and Reception parents should wait on the KS1 playground with their child (ren) - the class teachers will lead them down the KS1 slope into school
- Staff will not be allowed to accept letters, notes or things that a child may want to show in school. Please continue to contact staff by leaving messages on the school office phone or email.

Collecting your child

- All children should be collected at 3.15pm.
- Please arrive promptly and enter the playgrounds as you do for arriving to school (Only one parent or carer please)
- KS1 and Reception parents should wait on the KS1 playground and KS2 parents on the KS2 playground
- Class teachers will bring the children out on the playground
- Please exit the school premises promptly, using the most appropriate exit gate

Please arrive and exit promptly - please do not congregate with other parents either on the school premises or outside the school entrances

Hygiene and Cleanliness

- Increased handwashing throughout the day will remain as part of the daily routine and children will access the toilets on an individual basis to ensure social distance measures.
- Children will be encouraged to manage sneezes and coughs using the NHS guidance to CATCH IT- BIN IT- KILL IT. Tissues will be available in each room and then immediately disposed of in the bins provided.
- Windows will be kept open to increase ventilation and where possible doors will be propped open.
- There will be additional cleaning of desks, high contact areas and toilet areas during the day.
- PPE will be used at all times for intimate care, first aid and emergency situations.



Additional Information:

- Breakfast Club will still be operating from 7.30am - all places must be pre-booked; it is not possible to just 'turn up'. Please contact the school office for booking details 01782 898015
- After school clubs will commence week beginning 13th September - further details to follow

- Snack money - please continue to pre-order and pay via Parentpay just as you did during the Summer Term. Please do not send your child with 'cash' to purchase snacks.

Your responsibilities

- Follow the plan as outlined
- Arrive and collect at the specified times
- Send children with only the essential items (coat, appropriate footwear, sunhat, lunch and a named plastic water bottle that can stay in school)
- Do not send children to school with toys, pencil cases or bags (PE bags only)
- Do not send in letters
- We advise wearing a face covering/mask whilst on the school site
- Parents are advised to maintain social distancing, as this does reduce the risk of transmission
- Please contact the school office if you have a message you wish to be passed on to your child's class teacher, at the start of the school day.
- **PROMPTLY ENGAGE WITH THE NHS TEST AND TRACE PROCESS**

Outbreak Management Plan

In line with Government and DfE guidance school has a contingency plan (Outbreak Management Plan) detailing measures school will re-introduce, if pupils or staff test positive for covid-19.

These additional measures may also be re-introduced if school is advised to do so by the Government/DfE or Staffordshire Local Authority. If this should happen Parents will be contacted via email/text and details will be published on the school's website.

Please be assured school will be monitoring the effectiveness of our covid-19 safety measures and will act very quickly to re-instate any measures, if we feel it necessary.

The education, safety and well-being of all our pupils remains our number one priority

Please email any queries in the first instance to: headteacher@dovebank.staffs.sch.uk

PLEASE REMEMBER IF ANYONE IN YOUR HOUSEHOLD DEVELOPS ANY SYMPTOMS RELATING TO COVID 19 THEY MUST SEEK A PCR TEST URGENTLY

We look forward to welcoming you and your child(ren) back to Dove Bank Primary School

Information in this document is taken from the published Government Guidance -

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/999689/Schools_guidance_Step_4_update_FINAL.pdf

