



Newbold & Tredington C of E Primary School and Day Nursery

Creating a chance to SHINE every day

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Dear Newbold and Tredington families,

Earlier this week, the Prime Minister announced the move to step 4 of the Government's roadmap to lifting Covid-19 restrictions on Monday 19th July. I am writing to update you on the last two days of this term and the start of the term in September.

This guidance comes into play on Monday 19th July although schools have the discretion to maintain their current risk assessments until the end of term. The guidance states that "if your school is still open at step 4, you may wish to continue with these measures until the end of your Summer term." As advised by Warwickshire Local Authority, we will keep to our current systems until the end of term as the last thing I want to do is have to inform families and staff that they have to isolate for the first week of the summer holidays.

From 16th August, children will no longer have to isolate if they are a Covid close contact. This means the isolation of close contacts will stay in place until the end of term but schools will no longer have to contact trace. After step 4, close contacts will be identified via NHS Test and Trace. Tracers will work with the positive cases to identify close contacts. Contacts from school will only be traced by NHS Test and Trace where the positive case specifically identifies the individual as being a close contact.

It is important to note that the requirement for children to self-isolate if they are identified as close contacts of a positive case doesn't end until 16th August - not as soon as step 4 begins, assuming that is earlier (proposed date of 19th July). The same is true for fully vaccinated adults. This means that, until then, close contacts will still be asked to self-isolate.

In September, schools will still be expected to ensure there is good hygiene and good ventilation in all spaces which realistically equates to washing hands and opening windows!

For our Year 6 children moving to secondary school the DfE says that, as children will be mixing during the summer holidays, all secondary pupils should receive two on-site lateral flow tests, three to five days apart, on their return in September. Secondary children will not be advised to wear a face covering.

There are elements of our Covid practice that we have found to be beneficial for the children. Therefore, we have decided that children at Tredington will continue to arrive and leave school using their allocated gate and the staff at Newbold will meet the children at the gate. We have found that this way of arriving has made the children calmer and ready to work more quickly in a morning.

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Children need to arrive at school between 8.40am to 9.00am. Collection at Newbold will be at 3.15pm and 3.30pm at Tredington.

Tredington gates:

Playground - Emerald Class (Mr Ganjavi)

Main entrance - Amber Class (Mrs Small)

Car park gate - Sapphire Class (Miss Walsh)

Initially, in the autumn term, we will also keep Parents' Information Evenings and Parents' Evenings virtual but we will be giving you the opportunity to come into school to look at your children's books. (More details in September.)

The children at Newbold will continue to come to school in their PE kits on Tuesday (and a Friday in September). Children at Tredington will need to bring in their PE kits on the first day of term.

We are also continuing with the sky blue school bags/book bags for everyday use. We have very little cloakroom space and this has had a dramatic effect on keeping communal spaces tidy and safe. Please don't go to the expense of purchasing an expensive rucksack. The school bags are on the Price and Buckland website: <https://price-buckland.co.uk/school-finder/?school-search=Newbold+%26+Tredington+Primary+School>

Hopefully in September, the rest of school life will return to "normal" and we will be able to regain the activities that we have lost including Shining Star Celebration Assembly, Class Worship, volunteers in school, Parent IMPaCT mornings and school productions to name a few. We are also hoping to hold the annual "Picnic on the Field" in September and invite Year 6 and their families to join us.

I would like to stress again the importance of "Hands, Face, Space, Fresh Air" and thank you for your continued support over the last 18 months.

We are optimistic for the new term and are excited to return to normal Newbold and Tredington school life.

Many thanks,

Sam Welsby

Headteacher

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