



# STEPHENSON WAY ACADEMY AND NURSERY SCHOOL

-Headteacher: Mrs T Page

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5th January 2022

## UPDATE IN POTENTIAL ADDITIONAL SAFETY MEASURES IN SCHOOL

Dear Parents and Carers,

In November, I wrote to you outlining potential additional safety measures that may be implemented in school due to an increase nationally in positive Covid 19 cases.

I would like to provide an update as we return to school in the New Year and have included the updated link to government guidance for parents and carers ( below) and is also available on our school website [www.stephensonway.co.uk](http://www.stephensonway.co.uk)

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/what-parents-and-carers-need-to-know-about-early-years-providers-schools-and-colleges-during-the-coronavirus-covid-19-outbreak/step-4-update-what-parents-and-carers-need-to-know-about-early-years-providers-schools-and-colleges>

Since returning to school in September, we already kept a number of additional safety measures in place throughout the pandemic (such as Phase break times / lunchtimes/ assemblies, separate classroom entrances/ exits, additional ventilation, cleaning and respiratory and hand hygiene).

Currently, the number of Covid -19 cases in our school is **NOT** a cause for concern. We have received recommendations from Durham County Council's Public Health team and need to inform you that we **MAY** need to re-introduce some additional measures to reduce the risk of COVID-19 transmission in school if the school and/or local community picture were to change in the future.

Additional measures may include:

- The use of face coverings for any visitors coming into school
- Cancellation or postponement of educational visits/ residential trips/ parent visits
- Open days or events to move to a virtual format (e.g. parents open days)

### Tracing close contacts and isolation procedures

Education settings are not undertaking contact tracing. Close contacts will now be identified via NHS Test and Trace. This is likely to be a small number of individuals who would be most at risk of contracting COVID-19 due to the nature of the close contact.

From 14 December 2021, adults who are fully vaccinated and all children and young people aged between 5 and 18 years and 6 months identified as a contact of someone with COVID-19 are strongly advised to take a LFD test every day for 7 days and continue to attend their setting as normal, unless they have a positive test result.

Daily testing of close contacts applies to all contacts who are:

- fully vaccinated adults – people who have had 2 doses of an approved vaccine
- all children and young people aged 5 to 18 years and 6 months, regardless of their vaccination status
- people who are not able to get vaccinated for medical reasons
- people taking part, or have taken part, in an approved clinical trial for a COVID-19 vaccine

Children under 5 years are exempt from self-isolation and do not need to take part in daily testing of close contacts.

Further information is available in:

- [NHS Test and Trace: what to do if you are contacted](#)
- [stay at home: guidance for households](#) with possible or confirmed coronavirus (COVID-19) infection



NHS Test and Trace will inform affected individuals, children or their parents or carers that they have been in close contact with a positive case and advise them to take a PCR test. We would encourage all individuals to take a PCR test if advised to do so.

Staff who do not need to isolate, and children and young people aged under 18 years 6 months who usually attend school who have been identified as a close contact of someone with COVID-19 should continue to attend school as normal. Further information is available in the [stay at home: guidance for households](#).

If there is a substantial increase in the number of positive cases in your nursery, school, or college, or if your nursery, school, or college is in an enhanced response area, you might be advised that some control measures need to be temporarily reintroduced.

Where children and young people who are self-isolating are within our definition of vulnerable, or have challenging circumstances at home, nurseries, schools and colleges will put systems in place to keep in contact with them, particularly if they have a social worker.

## **Remote Learning**

In the event that your child is unable to attend school due to Covid-19 Remote Learning is accessible through each class page on our school website [www.stephensonway.co.uk/classes](http://www.stephensonway.co.uk/classes)

If your child is well enough to be able to do so, they should log on and click onto the Remote Learning Guidance for Parent (screenshot of an example class page is below)

Home Key Information About Us Parents Classes Curriculum Week In Pictures Contact Us Our Virtual Tour

### YEAR 3 CLASSES

Teachers	Mr Norris
Teaching Assistant	Mrs Ball
Class Email	year3@swans.education

Remote Learning - Guidance for Parents 21/22  
Curriculum Overview of Teaching Blocks

Wider Curriculum Document  
Week in Pictures  
Relax Kids Activities

**Resources purchased by the school**  
(children will have their own log in details)  
Times Tables Rockstars  
Fiction Express  
Purple Mash  
Reading Plus  
Oxford Owl - Free E-Book Library

**Recommended Websites**  
Several Collated Educational Websites  
Activities for Home  
Key Stage 2 - Literacy BBC  
Maths Resources  
Wider Curriculum Information and Activities  
The Oak National Academy

**Help/Guides for Parents and Carers**  
Reading Guide for Parents  
Home Learning Guide and Suggested Timetable  
Maths Skills Practise Support  
PE guide for home  
Storytelling with Adam Bushnell

Pupils (or parents) can then submit any completed work by taking a photograph and sending via Class Dojo to the class teacher. Additional support and advice from the teacher can also be accessed through Class Dojo.

## **Help, support, and further information.**

To help you comply with the requirement to self-isolate, the County Durham Together Community Hub can provide access to essential supplies, financial support and emotional support as well as other services. Please visit [www.durham.gov.uk/covid19help](http://www.durham.gov.uk/covid19help) or call the Community Hub on 03000 260260 for further details.

There is also support available the coronavirus section via [durhamlocate.org.uk](http://durhamlocate.org.uk)

Finally, we would like to thank you for everything you have done and continue to do, to keep your family and community safe and for your patience in continuing to support our school during this challenging time.

*Mrs Page*  
Head teacher