

ELVINGTON CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL



'Working Together We Can All Achieve Success'

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Tuesday 11th January 2022

Dear Parents/Carers,

Following an increase in confirmed cases of COVID-19, I am writing to inform you of the implementation of additional measures. The changes below will come into effect from **Thursday 13th January 2022** – this will hopefully allow you sufficient time to make any necessary amendments.

Maintaining high quality face-to-face education remains Elvington's main priority. I am hopeful that these additional mitigations will reduce the number of children, parents/carers and staff contracting COVID-19.

If your child has a positive COVID-19 diagnosis, or is having a test, please inform the school using the following email address, as soon as you find out: <u>head@elvingtonprimary.org.uk</u>. The aforementioned email address will be checked regularly (including weekends).

Staggered drop off and collection times:

- Class 1 pupils to arrive between 8.10am and 8.20am. To be collected between 2.30pm and 2.40pm.
- Class 2 pupils to arrive between 8.20am and 8.30am. To be collected between 2.40pm and 2.50pm.
- Class 3 pupils to arrive between 8.30am and 8.40am. To be collected between 2.50pm and 3pm.
- Class 4 pupils to arrive between 8.40am and 8.50am. To be collected between 3pm and 3.10pm.
- Class 5 pupils to arrive between 8.50am and 9am. To be collected between 3.10pm and 3.20pm.

Children will enter and exit school through the standard entrances/exits for their year groups. Parents/Carers are encouraged to adhere to these times, with a preference for the earliest possible listed time for their year group. Please see the attached information sheet explaining how our drop off and collection arrangements will be implemented.

Staggered break times (including lunch), so that all children are not moving around the school at the same time.

Class 1 pupils to have the following break times and lunch:

Morning break - 10.00am to 10.15am (split from Class 2)

*Lunch – 11.20am to 11.40am (in the hall). Followed by 40 minutes on the playground or field – split from Class 2.

Afternoon break – 2pm to 2.15pm (split from Class 2)

Class 2 pupils to have the following break times and lunch:

Morning break - 10.00am to 10.15am (split from Class 1)



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*Lunch – 11.40am to 12.00pm (in the hall). Followed by 40 minutes on the playground or field – split from Class 1.

Afternoon break – 2pm to 2.15pm (split from Class 1)

Class 3 pupils to have the following break times and lunch:

Morning break - 10.20am to 10.35am *Lunch – 12.00pm to 12.20pm (in the hall). Followed by half an hour on the playground or field – split from other classes.

Class 4 pupils to have the following break times and lunch:

Morning break - 10.40am to 10.55am (split from Class 5) *Lunch – 12.20pm to 12.40pm (in the hall). Followed by half an hour on the playground or field – split from other classes.

Class 5 pupils to have the following break times and lunch:

Morning break - 10.40am to 10.55am (split from Class 4) *Lunch – 12.40pm to 1.00pm (in the hall). Followed by half an hour on the playground or field – split from other classes.

*Children to queue at the marked intervals and to be seated in the hall (minimising contact and mixing).

The children's classrooms will be arranged differently; this will result in pupils sitting side by side and facing forwards, rather than face to face or side on.

Children will use toilets allocated to their group/bubble – these will be the closest possible toilets to each of the aforementioned classrooms.

Breakfast Club will continue to operate between 7.45am and 8.45am. This will be held in a partitioned hall (to maintain the integrity of teaching groups).

Additional information about Elvington out of School Club will be provided by Mrs. Sue Challis in due course...

I would like to continue to ask parents and carers to wear a face covering when dropping children off and then collecting them at the end of the day. Although we have staggered start/finish times and a one-way system, it can still be busy outside of school. Face coverings will further help to keep everyone safe during this period. Of course, if there are valid reasons why face coverings cannot be worn, these will be respected.

Please ensure that you adhere strictly to the time slots allocated for drop off and collection times. Older siblings can continue to be dropped off at an earlier time, as long as this fits within the younger child's time slot. These older children will then wait in our covered outdoor waiting area, until their bubble enters the building. This is in order to ensure that bubbles do not mix during these periods.

The following mitigations will also be implemented with immediate effect:

- Whole-school Collective Worship and Sharing Assemblies will not take place in the hall. Collective Worship and the sharing of certificates will still take place in class bubbles via Google Meet.
- Walky-talkies will be used by the staff to facilitate communication and ensure there are no conflicting movement of groups.
- PE kits will come into school on a Monday and return home on a Friday. **Children in Reception will still continue to attend school in their PE kits on a Tuesday and Wednesday.** Reading books will be provided once a week (on a Monday), and should be returned on a Friday. This will allow 48 hours before the books are passed onto another child.
- School trips (including residentials) will not take place.

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Confirmatory PCR tests following a positive lateral flow device (LFD) test result are to be temporarily suspended from Tuesday 11th January. This will mean that anyone who receives a positive LFD test result will be required to self-isolate immediately and will not be required to take a confirmatory PCR test.

Children identified as a close contact of someone with COVID-19, should take an LFD test every day for seven days and continue to attend their setting as normal, unless they have a positive test result or develop symptoms at any time.

Pupils who have had a positive PCR or LFT test cannot return to school until they have a negative test result or have completed the required isolation time. Individuals may now take LFD tests on day 6 and day 7 of their self-isolation period. Those who receive two negative test results are no longer required to complete 10 full days of self-isolation. The first test must be taken no earlier than day 6 of the self-isolation period and tests must be taken 24 hours apart. This also applies to children under 5, with LFD testing at parental or guardian discretion. If both these test results are negative, and you do not have a high temperature, you may end your self-isolation after the second negative test result and return to your education setting from day 8.

Anyone who is unable to take LFD tests will need to complete the full 10 day period of self-isolation. Further information is available in the stay at home: guidance for households with possible or confirmed COVID-19 infection.

I would like to reassure you that through these challenging times, we will continue to do all we can to support our families. We will continue to work closely with the local health protection team (HPT) and implement provisions as advised by the team.

The aforementioned mitigations will be implemented until Friday 18th February 2022; a review will then take place prior to the start of the second half of the Spring Term.

Yours sincerely,

Mr. Andrew Buttery