



Sutton in Craven C.E (V.C) Primary School

Main Street, Sutton in Craven, Keighley, BD20 7JS

Tel: 01535 632181

Email: admin@sutton-in-cravencofe.n-yorks.sch.uk

Headteacher: Mrs O Gibbons



31st October 2021

Dear Parents/Carers,

COVID 19 – Sutton CE School Update

Over the last few weeks we have seen a significant increase in the number of children and young people who have tested positive for COVID-19. Parts of North Yorkshire have recently had some of the highest rates of COVID-19 in the country. Transmission rates are particularly high among school-aged children and young people, their households and contacts. There also remains the possibility that the Government may implement 'Plan B' measures as part of the [Autumn and Winter Plan](#), in response to unsustainable pressures on health and social care, a move to Plan B will indicate a clear steer that more stringent COVID-19 measures are required.

We are continuing to monitor the situation at Sutton CE very carefully to ensure we keep all our children, staff, families and school community safe, as safe as we can. We know, following the success of only one bubble closure in the last 18 months that the systems and approaches we have in place are effective. However, they will only remain effective if we continue to work together, adhere to and follow guidance and advice given and support each other.

The guidance (NYCC, PHE, Government) given is based on the picture of COVID-19 locally and nationally at time of writing and we may need to adapt it to suit our individual circumstances or if there is any significant change in the local or national picture. We will be using and personalising public health guidance on the managing of and prevention of cases within our school and amongst our school community.

Public Health Guidance	Our school
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Encourage regular twice-weekly lateral flow testing for all staff and pupils aged 11+ 	Staff will continue to test twice weekly. Results are reported through the NHS as well as through our school based system.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Considering reintroduction of face coverings in settings experiencing cases to minimise onward spread. 	<p>Face coverings continue to be an effective mechanism to reduce transmission. We will be re – introducing the wearing of face coverings on school site for both staff and visitors. This will initially be for a period of 2 weeks and then reviewed in line with the number of cases currently in school as well as local and national guidance.</p> <p>Please adhere to social distancing, where possible, at drop off and pick up.</p> <p>Regardless of outbreak status any individual who wishes to wear a face covering will be encouraged and enabled to do so.</p>





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	Please ensure your child/ren stay at home if unwell with other respiratory illnesses.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wearing face coverings on shared transport (e.g. school buses, public transport) 	In line with existing guidance, may we remind you about the importance of this measure. Please follow and adhere to this guidance if using shared transport.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continuing to reinforce messages on good hand and respiratory hygiene 	<p>We will continue to support our children with regular hand washing with soap and water at set times throughout the day in line with our risk assessment. We revisit 'Catch it, Bin it, Kill it' messages regularly and support the children to follow this.</p> <p>As parents/carers, please continue to encourage your child/ren to wash their hands regularly with soap and water, or use hand sanitiser if handwashing facilities are not available. Encourage your child/ren to use a tissue to catch coughs and sneezes as part of 'Catch it, Bin it, Kill it' messages.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maximising ventilation in classrooms and other shared spaces. 	We will be keeping windows open/partly open as much as is practicable. We know this will bring additional challenges as we enter the colder months. Due to this we will continue to review our ventilation across school regularly, following the updated guidance from HSE and reflect the needs and organisation of Sutton CE.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reducing mixing between year groups and classes and limiting visitors to the school 	<p>The children and staff have thoroughly enjoyed being back in the hall for Collective Worship and lunch time, however with the current situation we will, once again, be reducing the mixing of classes for the next two weeks. This is to reduce the risk of transmission of COVID-19 between groups of children.</p> <p>We will continue to have whole school Collective Worship via teams and lunch will be served in classrooms. Additional staff will be put in place to support our children during these times.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assessing whether educational trips and residential visits should go ahead 	This half term there are currently no educational trips or residential trips organised. We will review all local and national guidance when considering booking trips this side of Christmas. Our residential is booked for the Summer Term and we hope that this will go ahead as planned.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assess whether additional visits/events at school should go ahead 	We will be keeping visitors to a limit over the next two weeks, essential visitors only. Meetings will return to being online via teams. We will review this in a couple





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	<p>of weeks and take a decision based on local and national guidance. If you would like to meet with your child's class teacher, please arrange this via telephone or teams.</p> <p>We have therefore taken the decision to postpone our open day for prospective and current parents/carers until Wednesday 24th November. This may also have to be by appointment but we will ensure this is communicated effectively and in a timely fashion.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continuing to implement our robust additional cleaning schedule throughout school 	<p>We will continue to maintain high levels of hygiene and our additional cleaning regime will remain in place. This includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Particular focus on frequently touched surfaces e.g. light switches, door handles, handrails, taps, table tops, shared equipment More frequent cleaning of toilets and classroom surfaces

Testing

If anyone in your family has symptoms of COVID-19 they must isolate and book a PCR test. Please inform school as soon as possible of symptoms and test results so that we can support the reduction in transmission throughout school. We will review and amend our procedures accordingly and appropriately using our outbreak management plan and school risk assessment.

The 3 main symptoms of COVID-19 remain as

- a fever (temperature 37.8OC or higher)*
- a new continuous cough*
- a change to/loss of taste or smell.*

However, other commonly reported symptoms of the Delta variant include headache, sore throat, tiredness, and cold-like symptoms, so please be aware of these as well and stay at home and seek further testing if you are in any doubt.





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If you have any questions or queries in regards to the information in this letter, please do not hesitate to contact the school office on admin@sutton-in-cravencofe.n-yorks.sch.uk or on 01535 632181.

Finally, I would like to thank you for continued support with your child/ren, your family, our staff and the wider Sutton CE community. It is imperative that we remain vigilant in the fight against COVID – 19 and do all we can to keep each other and ourselves safe. Thank you also for your continued patience and support through what is continuing to be a difficult and challenging time. We can do this, we will do this, our children need to be able to come to school each and every day to learn, to love and to flourish.

With very best wishes,

Orla Gibbons

Mrs Orla Gibbons

Headteacher

