



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

Flourish together, in the love of God, to live life in all its fullness.

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

Tel: 01535 632181, Email: admin@sutton-in-cravencofe.n-yorks.sch.uk

Headteacher: Mrs O Gibbons



Tuesday 4th January 2022

Dear Parents/Carers,

Happy New Year to you all and I hope that you have had a peaceful Christmas break with family and friends.

The tightening of COVID – 19 restrictions has continued due to the spread of the Omnicron variant. Therefore, we have once again revisited and reviewed our robust school risk assessment whilst following the newest government guidelines issued to schools on Sunday morning, 2nd January.

'Our priority is for education settings to deliver high-quality education face-to-face, to all children and learners. The evidence is clear that being out of education causes significant harm to educational attainment, life chances, mental and physical health.'

With the risk of infection from the Omicron variant of COVID-19 still high, we're reminding education and childcare settings – as well as young people, families, teachers and other education and childcare staff – to continue to take the necessary steps to ensure that the return to education and childcare is as safe as possible.

COVID-19 continues to be a virus that we are learning to live with and the need to reduce the disruption to children and learners' education remains.'

Face coverings

Staff will continue to wear face coverings in communal areas in school unless exempt and staff meetings and other meetings will be held virtually. Primary school children are not required to wear face coverings in school, health advice continues to be that children should not routinely be asked to wear face coverings. We would also advise wearing a face covering at drop off and pick up if you cannot maintain a safe distance from others or when speaking with a member of staff. We all have to continue to keep our school community as safe as we can under the current circumstances.

Visitors to school

Only essential visitors will be allowed to enter school and must adhere to our COVID safe visitors procedure. If you need to contact a member of staff or contact the school office, please do not hesitate to phone 01535 632181 or email admin@sutton-in-cravencofe.n-yorks.sch.uk. The class teachers will also be available through the class emails, please see below for a reminder of these.

blossom@sutton-in-cravencofe.n-yorks.sch.uk

willow@sutton-in-cravencofe.n-yorks.sch.uk





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birch@sutton-in-cravencofe.n-yorks.sch.uk

oak@sutton-in-cravencofe.n-yorks.sch.uk

Be mindful that our staff work throughout the day and so cannot respond immediately to the email you send, please allow for a full 24 hours for a reply from time of sending. We appreciate your continued support and understanding with this. If it is a more urgent request, contact the school office directly.

NHS track and trace and self isolation

A key update is for children, parents and staff who are identified as close contacts of someone with COVID-19 (Omicron or not). From now on, People who are fully vaccinated or aged between 5 years and 18 years and 6 months and identified as a close contact should take a lateral flow test every day for 7 days and to continue attending school as normal, unless they receive a positive test result or develop symptoms. Those that are unvaccinated and are identified as close contact should self isolate immediately for a full 10 days.

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.

As with positive cases in any other setting, NHS Test and Trace will work with the positive case and/or their parent to identify close contacts. Contacts from a school setting will only be traced by NHS Test and Trace where the positive case or their parent specifically identifies the individual as being a close contact. 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

If they test positive or develop symptoms, the person (child, parent/carer or staff member) must self isolate immediately, book and complete a PCR test to confirm the result. If the PCR test is positive, they must self isolate and can end their self isolation period before the end of the 10 full days. They can take a lateral flow device (LFD) test from 6 days after the day symptoms started/positive test and another LFD test on the following day. The second LFD test should be taken at least 24 hours later. If both these test results are negative, and the person does not have a high temperature, they may end their self-isolation after the second negative test result, and return to their education setting.

We request that you keep school informed at each stage of the process to ensure we maintain our attendance records accurately. Staff will continue twice weekly lateral flow tests.

Ordering LFD tests – please see link below.





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<https://www.gov.uk/order-coronavirus-rapid-lateral-flow-tests>

Other useful link

<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>

Remote Learning

If your child/children cannot attend school either because they have tested positive or have symptoms, but are well enough to continue learning, our remote learning offer will be implemented. It is therefore vital that you keep school informed at each stage to ensure learning is offered as soon as is appropriate. Our remote learning offer can be viewed from our school website. Remote education will mirror the learning that is received in the classroom as closely as possible. You child's/children's class teacher or staff member will liaise with you and all learning will be accessed via Microsoft Teams.

To support with the implementation of remote learning if needed this term all our children spent time accessing Microsoft teams therefore reminding them how to log on, where to find their learning and how to complete learning, hopefully this will support with any issues that may have been present before. However, if there are any difficulties, please contact the class teacher in the first instance.

Symptoms

I would like to remind parents and carers **NOT** to send your child to school if they show any of the symptoms of COVID-19 (below), please contact school, ensure they self-isolate and arrange for a PCR test:

- A new continuous cough.
- A high temperature.
- A change in or loss of your normal sense of taste and smell.

Returning to school tomorrow

Finally, I would like to say how proud I am of our school community, the support offered by everyone to everyone enabling all to flourish – I feel truly humbled.

A New Year brings new life, new hopes, new dreams – dreams that can come through, dreams that can be a reality, dreams that we can share with others and dream together. We are facing more challenging times but together we can show courage and we can overcome. It is two years since I began as headteacher at Sutton CE and what a couple of years it has been – we are stronger together!





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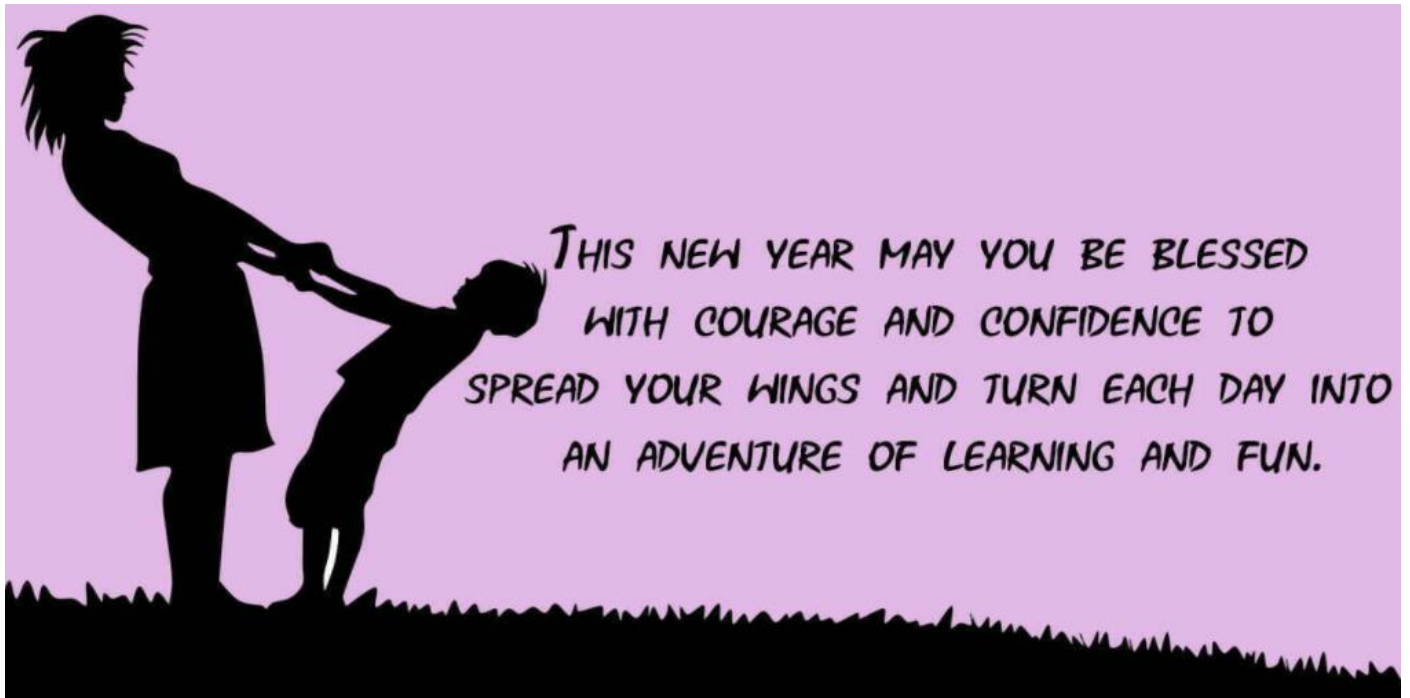
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Our children are our priority and all our decisions are made with their best interests at heart. This is and will continue be our driving force moving forward through the next few months as we find our way through the latest COVID variant.

Children may feel nervous, excited or anxious about coming back to school, particularly if they have been hearing the latest news or reading any of the latest news headlines. We know that we cannot always protect our children what is going on around them. Please do let us know via phone or email if there is any specific support your child/children need at this current time.

We have always had an open door policy and yes, we cannot see you in school in person, this does not mean that the door is closed. Please do just get in touch.



With very best wishes,

Orla Gibbons

Mrs Orla Gibbons

Headteacher

