



Plympton St. Maurice Primary School  
Plympton Hill  
Plympton  
PLYMOUTH  
PL7 1UB

Tel: 01752 337427

Fax: 01752 331568

E-mail: [st.maurice.primary.school@plymouth.gov.uk](mailto:st.maurice.primary.school@plymouth.gov.uk)

Website: [www.plympton-st-maurice-primary.org.uk](http://www.plympton-st-maurice-primary.org.uk)

Headteacher: Mrs. S. J Tustain B.Ed. (Hons) NPQH

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Tuesday 4 January 2022

Dear Parent/Carer,

A very happy new year to you and your family. I hope that you enjoyed the Christmas break with your family and loved ones.

I thought it would be helpful to summarise some of the guidance that the Government have published over the Christmas break which will relate to Plympton St Maurice Primary.

- Since Wednesday 22 December, **the 10 day self-isolation period for people who record a positive PCR test result for COVID-19 has been reduced to 7 days in most circumstances**, unless you cannot test for any reason. 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. 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**.
- People who are fully vaccinated, or children and young people aged between 5 and 18 years and 6 months, identified as a close contact of someone with COVID-19, **should take an LFD test every day for seven days and continue to attend school as normal, unless they have a positive test result or develop symptoms at any time**.

What does this mean for Plympton St Maurice Primary?

- Face coverings will be continued to be worn by staff inside all communal areas and corridors – this will be reviewed at the next Government evaluation point, 26 January
- Identified close contacts of a positive case can continue to attend school as long as daily LFTs at home remain negative and the person has no symptoms
- Staff and children who are positive for Covid may end their isolation earlier than the anticipated 10 days and return to school from day 8, but only if they receive two negative test results on day 6 and day 7
- As an extra precaution, on-site visits from essential business visitors/contractors will be limited until January 26 - there will be no on-site meetings with parents or carers until this review point. The only exception would be visits from children's services professionals. Should you need to collect your child for a medical appointment or because they are unwell, may I remind you to wear a face covering and sanitise upon entry to our school office area.
- Where essential visits are allowed, parents, carers and other visitors are asked to take an LFT at home before entering the setting and only attend if it returns a negative result
- Extra-curricular and enrichment/trips can continue as planned

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- We will continue to operate our normal playtime and lunchtime routines. These will be reviewed regularly against current government guidelines.
- If your children is unwell or unable to attend school for any reason, we would continue to ask all parents to notify the school of their absence. This needs to be done on a daily basis.

Thank you for your continued support, understanding and patience with all control measures put in place to reduce the prevalence of COVID-19 within our school community and keep everyone safe as we return for the start of term 3. We have supported each other through 2 very challenging years already, so we are well-prepared and resilient to adapt to whatever lies ahead. That said, let's hope that 2022 is an easier year for all!

With kind regards



Mrs Sarah Jane Tustain  
Head teacher



Artsmark  
Gold Award  
Awarded by Arts  
Council England

