



# Step 4: Flintham Primary School



Dear Parents,

I hope you are all having a wonderful Summer. As you may be aware COVID measures in school are being greatly relaxed, and life in schools, at last, is set to return to a sense of normality.

Outlined below are the control measures in place for the start of the Autumn term in September, 2021

Following these will be details concerning returning to our normal arrival and departure times.

## Arrangements for Autumn Term 2021

### 1. Bubbles are gone...

Bubbles will be popped. This means the children will no longer need to be kept separate in their class bubbles. All classes can mix together, this means a much-welcomed return to whole school assemblies, House events, after school clubs and mixing at break and lunchtimes. No more playground zones. However.....

### 2. ... bubbles could come back in some areas

The school has an 'Outbreak Management Plan' to manage the risk of an outbreak (several cases) of Covid in the school, whilst ensuring the overall running of the school can continue. Please be assured that we will do all we can to keep the school open for as many pupils as we possibly can and that we will continue to follow DfE and Public Health Guidance. In the event of confirmed cases of Covid, bubbles may be temporarily re-established and increased restrictions be applied until the outbreak has abated. The school will communicate these changes to you clearly and regularly.

### 3. No more contact tracing for schools

After Step 4, close contacts will be identified via NHS Test and Trace. Tracers will *"work with the positive cases to identify close contacts"*. The DfE have confirmed that schools will no longer be contacting and tracing close contacts of Covid-19. It is important that parents are aware of the NHS Track and Trace system.

Contacts from school will *"only be traced by NHS Test and Trace where the positive case specifically identifies the individual as being a close contact"*.

### Whole classes will not have to self-isolate if a pupil or adult has a confirmed case of Covid

If a child or adult has suspected symptoms of the virus whilst at school, they will be isolated until they go home. The pupil/adult will need to have a PCR test and self-isolate. If the test is positive, Public Health England will be notified and the school will follow their guidance on next steps. Classes will not be sent home although school will inform the families when a case of Covid has been declared. The school strongly advises all parents to remain vigilant for symptoms.

### 4. Negative PCR tests will override rapid result

Staff and pupils with a positive rapid test will need to self-isolate and will need to take a more accurate PCR test. **If taken within two days, a negative PCR test will over-ride the rapid result meaning staff and pupils can return to school.**

### 5. Schools can refuse pupils with Covid symptoms

All pupils or adults with COVID symptoms will need to self-isolate and should not come to school. In most cases, parents and carers will agree that a pupil with symptoms should not attend our school, given the potential risk to others. If a parent insists that their child should attend, we can take the decision to refuse your child if, in our reasonable judgement, it is necessary to protect other pupils and staff from possible infection with COVID-19. Our decision would be carefully considered in light of all the circumstances and current public health advice.

### 6. Face coverings

Face coverings will no longer be advised for staff or parents outside. Visitors and parents inside the school in either classrooms, offices or communal areas will be required to wear a mask. The guidance states: *"The government has removed the requirement to wear face coverings in law but expects and recommends that they are worn in enclosed and crowded spaces where you may come into contact with people you don't normally meet."* Public health officials may also advise masks are worn again in the case of local outbreaks.

### 7. Fresh Air Flow

FPS will continue to ensure that classrooms and communal areas are well-ventilated and windows and doors are kept open, however staff will ensure the need for increased ventilation balances maintaining a comfortable temperature. Once again, as the weather gets colder, we recommend children wear an extra base layer.

## 8. Handwashing Routines

FPS will continue to maintain our handwashing routines. Staff will give regular reminders on when and how to wash hands. Staff currently supervise and insist on handwashing at key points of the day and this will continue. If your child is sensitive to the soap, you may wish them to bring their own soap, moisturiser or hand sanitiser. Staff will remind children not to touch their eyes, nose and mouth with unwashed hands.

Children will be reminded to cover their mouth and nose with a bent elbow, or use a tissue, when coughing or sneezing. If children sneeze or cough, they must wash their hands and use wipes to clean any equipment before handling again. Used tissues are to be disposed of in the lidded bins. There are posters around the school to remind pupils of expectations also.

## 9. FPS will maintain our remote education provision for the next year

As school is made aware of a pupil having to self-isolate, the class teacher will contact the pupil/parents as soon as possible. The remote learning will start as soon as is practicably possible. Our remote provision can be found on the school website: <https://flintham.notts.sch.uk/fps-remote-learning/>

Free school meal support will also be provided for eligible isolating pupils.

## 10. PE Kits on PE Days

One change we have decided to keep permanently is the children wearing PE kit on PE days. This has proved so beneficial in terms of the increased length of time spent being physically active and having all children participating. In September, please ensure the correct FPS PE kit is worn - black shorts and white T-shirt.

**PE DAYS: Class 1 - Monday**

**Class 2 - Tuesday, Wednesday**

**Class 3 - Wednesday, Friday**

**Class 4 - Tuesday, Wednesday**

## Organisation of the School Day

### • 8:50am - Start of the Day for all Pupils

As pre-COVID measures, our school day will again begin at 8:50am with all pupils welcomed into the playground at 8:40 am, when the head teacher (or a member of the SLT) is on duty outside. The children will no longer have to go through separate class gates to gain entrance. Class 1 children are invited to wait with their parents in Class 1's outside area if they wish to. Please remind your children that the trim trail and climbing frame are not in use at this time. When the bell rings at 8:50am, the children will line up with their class and be collected from the playground by the class teacher. Class 1 children are to line up at their classroom door. Parents are to say goodbye when the children are collected and are not encouraged to come into the classroom.

### 3:15pm - End of the Day for all Pupils

As pre-COVID measures, our school day will end at 3:15pm for all pupils. Classes exiting via their separate gates proved very effective during the past year and we will be continuing with this routine.

Class 1: Children will wait with their class teacher at the entrance to their covered area (as this year) and will only be allowed to leave when their parents/trusted adult are present.

Class 2: Children will wait with their class teacher at the entrance to their outside area (as this year) and will only be allowed to leave when their parents/trusted adult are present.

Class 3: Children will exit via the Class 3 gate.

Class 4: Children will exit via the Class 4 gate.

Children from Class 3 and 4 can join their parents on the playground if they have siblings in Class 1 if parents prefer. Please discuss this with your child before the start of the new term.

### • School Office

Mrs Otton's office will once again be open for business if needed, however due to the size of the room parents are requested to wait outside the school and enter one at a time wearing a mask.

### • After School Clubs

FPS after school clubs will resume in the Autumn Term. A list of clubs will be sent home early in the term.

### • Wraparound Care: Outside provider - The Lime Trees

	Breakfast Club	After School Club
Time	7.30am - Start of School	Close of School - 6pm
Cost	£5	£10

The Lime Trees website is: [www.thelimetrees.co.uk](http://www.thelimetrees.co.uk)

Contacts: 0115 9313 562 or email [enquiries@thelimetrees.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@thelimetrees.co.uk).

### **And finally...**

We are so delighted to be getting back to more normal practice. However, as we all know so well, guidance continually evolves as more detailed knowledge of the virus becomes known. As before, FPS will inform parents as and when control measures need to be updated as dictated by DFE Guidance. Changes to any school arrangements will be communicated via T2P, email or telephone.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank our parents for all your patience and support with all the systems of controls we have implemented over the last 18 months.

All our FPS children are brilliant and we have every confidence that we will have another smooth transition during this return and are very much looking forward to having all our pupils back in school with us on Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> September, 2021.

Enjoy the rest of the Summer break,

Mrs Bartlett and the FPS Staff