



Horwich Parish C.E. Primary School

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COVID Restrictions at Horwich Parish

25 February 2022

Good morning,

I hope you are well.

As you will know the Government and local authority schools operational guidance has been updated this week. It therefore is appropriate, due to our schools low COVID numbers to reflect this guidance at Horwich Parish.

Reduction of restrictions

I am delighted to share with you the following changes that will come into effect on Monday 28th February:

- Face coverings at HP will be voluntary for staff and visitors
- Twice weekly testing for staff and governors will cease
- Bubbles will be removed and the school will return as a whole community
- Cluster competitions / visitors / visits out of school will resume.
- There is no longer a legal requirement for people with coronavirus (COVID-19) infection to self-isolate, however if you have any of the main symptoms of COVID-19 or a positive test result, the public health advice is to stay at home and avoid contact with other people.
- Children and young people with COVID-19 should not attend their education setting while they are infectious. They should take an LFD test from 5 days after their symptoms started (or the day their test was taken if they did not have symptoms) followed by another one the next day. If both these tests results are negative, they should return to their educational setting if they normally attend one, as long as they feel well enough to do so and do not have a temperature. We understand that LFD tests will still be available from your local pharmacy or can be ordered online

Communication

We have now got some really effective communications channels in place so we ask that parents continue to use school spider, email, phone calls as the first point of communication rather than coming onto the premises.

We know how much parents like to visit their child's class and look at the classroom and books so I'm pleased to say that our "open afternoons" will resume every half term. The first one will take place on Thursday 10th March and any parents attending will need to sign in at the front gate at 2.45pm. Our pupil leaders will show parents to classrooms.

Gates

All gates will be open daily from 8.40-8.50am. Children may use any gate when arriving at school although we ask that the pram gate at the side of school is only used by our Reception children please. Reception children and their parents may come through their usual gate and wait on the decking outside the reception classrooms.

At the end of the school day we will keep our current practices in place for the safety of the children.



HORWICH & BLACKROD
LEARNING COMMUNITY



- Reception children will be dismissed from their usual gate
- Key stage 1 children will be released from the front gate
- Y3 & Y4 will be released from the bottom gate
- Y5 & Y6 will be released from the kitchen door and the front door by the steps

Safe practice

We will continue observing good practices throughout school;

- Ventilation
- Hand hygiene

We are hoping to return to using the Church premises for our assemblies and events but await confirmation that we can do this from the PCC.

If school absence due to COVID numbers increase then we have a school contingency plan ready to implement.

I am delighted that school can return to normal and would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone for playing their part in keeping our school community safe.

Please do email me with any questions.

Kindest regards

Mrs Mills