

# PORTISHEAD PRIMARY SCHOOL

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Learning and achieving together

28th January 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

It is great news that the government have moved England out of Plan B reducing some of the restrictions are measures that were introduced before Christmas. We recognise the range of views within our community and acknowledge that some people may find this step a concern given that we continue to have positive cases in our school.

## Mitigation that remains in place

- Hand and respiratory hygiene
- Daily additional cleaning
- Ventilation
- LFD testing
- Assemblies online
- Where there are 3 or more cases in a class, that class will eat lunch separately
- Staff will wear face coverings if they work across classes with a confirmed case or if they are living with a confirmed case

Whilst we remain vigilant we are really pleased that things are improving. We thank you for your partnership in doing all we can to minimise the risk of children missing time in school.

## LFD Testing and PCR Testing

With guidance being updated quite regularly recently, here is a little recap to help you should anyone in your family test positive on an LFD.

*From: UK Health Security Agency*

*Published*

*5 January 2022*

From 11 January in England, people who receive positive lateral flow device (LFD) test results for coronavirus (COVID-19) will be required to self-isolate immediately **and won't be required to take a confirmatory PCR test.**

The main symptoms of COVID-19 are recent onset of any of the following:

a new continuous cough

a high temperature

a loss of, or change in, your normal sense of taste or smell (anosmia)

For most people, COVID-19 will be a mild illness. However, **if you have any of the symptoms listed above, even if your symptoms are mild, stay at home and arrange to have a test. You do not need to take a PCR test if you have already taken an LFD test and the result was positive.**

### **Punctuality and Planned Absence**

It is really important that children arrive to school on time as lateness is stressful for them as it disrupts the learning of the whole class.

**Where you have planned absence please inform the school office rather than letting the teachers know.**

### **Bird Watch**

This weekend is The Big Garden Birdwatch 2022. The children will be given a bird watching tally sheet to find out how many different species of birds they can spot over a period of time in their garden or in any outdoor space. They can register their data on the RSPB website and we are also asking for the data to be sent back to school so that Eco Club can collate the children's findings and find out more about the birds in our local area.

### **Children's Mental Health Week**

This year, we are taking part in Children's Mental Health Week between 7-13 February. The theme this year is Growing Together. The week is run by the charity Place2Be, and focuses on the importance of promoting good mental health and wellbeing for children and young people. We will be taking part in online assemblies and lessons during the week in school, and will be sending home some mindfulness activities during the week for you to do with your children.

### **In other News**

- We have planted a cherry tree donated by the people of Japan.
- Our academic mentor and school-based tutors are really enjoying helping children catch up on missed learning.
- Children have enjoyed a number of eco-based assemblies delivered by environmental experts.
- 2 of our amazing teachers are starting some funded national professional qualifications.
- 1 of our amazing support members of staff has been selected for initial teacher training.
- Children have made a birthday card for Edna Clayton 101 on Monday. She is a care home resident in Glasgow. You can find out all about her in the news, or from your children.

Have a lovely weekend

Kind Regards

Richard Riordan  
Headteacher  
Portishead Primary School