



Hunslet Moor Primary School
Co-Head Teachers:
Miss H Darley and Mr S Crawford
☎ 0113 2717257
✉ enquiries@hunsletmoor.co.uk

Friday 14th January 2022

January update for parents and families

Dear parents/carers,

We would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a Happy New Year and share some key updates.

Concerns around drug use and criminal activity in the streets around school

We are aware that there has been some very concerning activity taking place on streets and a property near to our school in recent days. We have immediately reported this to the local policing teams. We have had contact with a Police Sergeant who has assured us that the police are aware. We have contacted local councillors, senior officers in the South Leeds Police team and the local authority environmental teams to ask for an immediate and coordinated response and will continue to demand that action is taken quickly.

We are aware that this will be a significant concern for all of our families and want to reassure you that we are working hard to ensure there is serious and immediate action taken for a situation that is out of our direct control.

We are aware that there have been drug paraphernalia found on the streets and in the bushes and paths around the school site and that parents and children may have also seen this. We have immediately linked with the police and local authority. Local authority teams have attended and removed the needles and will continue to do so. We are ensuring that we monitor the school site throughout the school day. We have spoken to children in an age-appropriate way about ensuring they keep themselves safe and that they should never pick up anything they might find.

Thank you to a number of parents who have raised concerns directly with school, please can we advise that if you have any concerns that you also raise these directly with the police so that they are aware of the significance of your concerns. We want to reassure all our families that we have expressed very clearly with the police and local authority that it is totally unacceptable that children and families have any kind of exposure to this kind of activity, we have shared your concerns and our concerns around safety and insisted that they act immediately.

We will continue to keep you updated and would ask that you please come and speak to us if you have any concerns or would like to discuss any of this further.

COVID self-isolation and positive test results

There have been a number of changes to the protocols for self-isolation and testing and we hope it will be helpful to share some key information below. We continue to ensure we are working hard to keep everyone as safe as possible and follow our school risk assessment. It is clear that the number of positive cases is increasing in the region, and we have had a number of positive cases in school since our return last week. From changes in July 2021, school is not responsible for identifying close contacts as this is now the role of NHS test and trace directly. We will however continue to contact families directly where we have been made aware of a positive lateral flow or PCR result for a child or member of staff in a year group or class.

The designated Child Protection Officers of the school are Mrs K Kassabian, Miss H Darley, Mr S Crawford, Miss S Harker, Miss H Simpson, Miss L Bolger and Mrs F Sorbie





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Please can we continue to encourage all children to attend school every day unless they have any of the COVID symptoms:

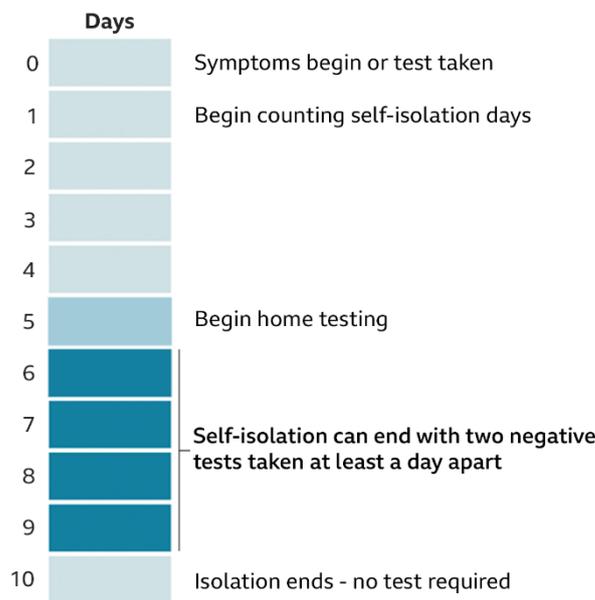
- a high temperature
- a new, continuous cough – this means coughing a lot, for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours
- a loss or change to sense of smell or taste – this means they cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal

If a child or adult has symptoms the NHS advises that self-isolation begins immediately and a PCR test is taken. Lateral Flow tests are to be used for regular testing where someone does not have symptoms or are self-isolating and checking if they are able to return to end self-isolation.

From Monday 17th January the Government have announced that they plan to make changes to the period of time needed for self-isolation, children and adults who test positive will be able to leave self-isolation after a further five full days, subject to having two negative LFT results, 24 hours apart.

- The day symptoms begin or you test positive is day zero.
- The next day is day one of your isolation period.
- You can take your first test on day five. If it is negative, you can take another test 24 hours later on day six. Assuming this is also negative - and you do not have a temperature - you can immediately leave isolation.

How five-day isolation rule works in England



Source: NHS



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Thank you for your continued support and trust throughout this period of the pandemic. We know how critical it is for children to be in school and learning and that every school day counts. Please can we ask that you work with school to ensure your children attend school every day (unless isolating or have symptoms) and that you book PCR tests if there are symptoms and lateral flow testing to ensure your child is back in school as soon as possible after a period of self-isolation.

Please remember that we are here to help in any way and if you have questions or are struggling in anyway to make contact with the school office.

Further announcements

We are delighted to be able to share that Mrs MacKenzie and Miss Murphy have both given birth to health and happy babies in the new year and will pass on the best wishes of staff and families to them both.

Finally, we would like to share that due to the absence of Miss Esteves, we are pleased that Miss Kaye will be able to support school by working for a couple more days next week – teaching in Year 5, prior to leaving to start her exciting journey in Canada.

Yours sincerely,

Simon Crawford & Hannah Darley

Co-Headteachers

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