



# Edgewood Primary School

## Building skills and values for life

Headteacher: Mr Ed Seeley

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Welcome back

Dear parents / carers,

I hope you had a magical and restful Christmas break and everyone at school would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a happy and prosperous new year.

I am sure you have been following the news regarding Coronavirus and schools with a degree of trepidation. Everyone at Edgewood Primary School is working really hard to try and reduce the impact of this virus on the children in our care and your support with these measures has been, and will continue to be, vital over the coming weeks and months.

One of the greatest challenges for us is keeping our staff healthy and virus-free so we can keep the school open. By reducing the incidence of positive cases in school we are more likely to be able to stay open and **your help with this is vital.**

Below is a reminder of the actions we are asking you to take to ensure that we keep everyone as safe as possible during this pandemic.

### **Positive and suspected cases**

If you or your child has symptoms please isolate and book a PCR test immediately. No one with symptoms should be coming to school, parents, pupils or staff. If you have symptoms, a LFD negative result DOES NOT prove you are not infected if you have symptoms – you need to get a PCR test.

If you give your child a LFD and it comes back positive please get them a PCR test immediately and keep them off school until you get the test results.

From 11<sup>th</sup> January, the government have announced that the need to get a confirmatory PCR test will be suspended and any positive LFD test should be taken as a confirmed positive result.

If you have a confirmed positive result in your household then we would please ask you to get your child a PCR test immediately to see whether they are currently infected. To reduce the chance of infecting staff and other pupils, we would ask you to please keep your child off school until you get a negative PCR result.

Once they have a negative PCR result they can return to school but please give them a daily LFD test to check they haven't subsequently become infected. If they test positive on an LFD or start with symptoms please keep them off school and get another PCR test.

If at any point you are unsure whether your child does or doesn't have coronavirus please keep them off school and get a more sensitive PCR test – a lateral flow test (LFD) will not prove that they aren't infected.



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### **Isolation periods**

If you get a positive PCR test result you should isolate for 10 days as instructed by Test and Trace.

If you now test negative on a LFD on days 6 AND 7 then you can end your isolation after that date. Only if BOTH tests are negative can you end the isolation early. If you do not take the LFD tests you must isolate for the full 10 days.

### **Hands**

We will ensure children wash their hands at the start of every day and when they have left classroom areas to minimise the chance of infection from surfaces. Please reduce the risk to your household by getting them to wash their hands thoroughly for 20 seconds after coming home.

### **Space**

Please socially distance from other households and from school staff during drop off and collections from school to minimise the chance of getting infected.

### **Face coverings**

Around the outside of the school fence-line, we would ask you to please wear a face covering whenever you are unable to maintain a 2m distance from members of another household.

You must wear a face covering when coming onto school property (even outside the building).

Please also wear a face covering if you are speaking to any member of the school staff, even outside. Infecting your child's teacher could mean we have to close that class if we can't secure a substitute teacher.

### **Ventilation**

We have CO2 monitors for every class space and are using these to advise us when to open additional doors and windows. We are balancing this with keeping the classroom warm at this cold time of year.

### **Mixing**

We are still working with reduced mixing in school. Children have playtimes, lunchtimes and a weekly assembly only with the classes in their year group team. We will increase mixing until we believe it is safe.

### **Enhanced cleaning**

The school continues to have a pattern of more regular and increased cleaning across school to keep your children as safe as possible.

### **Remote learning**

We will provide online learning through SeeSaw should your child be off with coronavirus or waiting for a test result. It will be uploaded by no later than the second day of absence. If we have staff absences this may delay work being uploaded. We will let you know if this happens and a likely timeframe.

If we are unable to safely staff one or more classes we may need to switch to online learning. If this scenario occurs, we will try to give you as much notice as possible. We are doing everything we can to avoid this happening.

Many thanks for your continued support and all your efforts to keep coronavirus cases as low as possible at our school.

Yours sincerely,

Ed Seeley,  
Headteacher