



SS Philip and James' Church of England
VA Primary School
With love we flourish
Tuesday 4th January 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

Happy New Year and a warm welcome back to school.

As we start Spring Term, I wanted to share with you the updated information from the DfE regarding self-isolation for adults and children, and remind you about events at the start of term.

Covid-19 Self-Isolation

Since Wednesday 22 December, the 10-day self-isolation period for people who record a positive PCR test result for COVID-19 has been reduced to 7 days in most circumstances, unless the person cannot take an LFD test for any reason.

Individuals may now take LFD tests on day 6 and day 7 of their self-isolation period. Those who receive two consecutive negative test results are no longer required to complete 10 full days of self-isolation.

The first test must be taken no earlier than day 6 of the self-isolation period and tests must be taken 24 hours apart. This also applies to children under 5, with LFD testing at parental or guardian discretion.

If both these test results are negative, and the person does not have a high temperature, they may end their self-isolation after the second negative test result and return to school or work from day 8.

Anyone who is unable to take LFD tests will need to complete the full 10 day period of self-isolation.

Further information is available in the [stay at home: guidance for households with possible or confirmed COVID-19 infection](#)

Daily testing for close contacts of COVID-19

People who are fully vaccinated, or children and young people aged between 5 and 18 ½ years, identified as a close contact of someone with COVID-19, should take an LFD test every day for seven days and continue to attend school as normal, unless they have a positive test result or develop symptoms at any time.

Children under 5 are not being advised to take part in daily testing of close contacts. If a child under 5 is a contact of a confirmed case, they are not required to self-isolate and should not start daily testing. If they live in the same household as someone with COVID-19 they should limit their contact with anyone who is at higher risk of severe illness if infected with COVID-19, and arrange to take a PCR test as soon as possible. They can continue to attend school while waiting for the PCR result. If the test is positive, they should follow the guidance above.

Outdoor Learning

Outdoor Learning will continue throughout Spring Term, with an overarching theme of *Independence* for the first half term. Please visit our website for [Outdoor Learning timetable](#) for Spring Term.

Outdoor Learning is an important part of our curriculum provision to support wellbeing and healthy relationships and will continue in all weathers so please could you ensure your child has named waterproof clothing and footwear in school for their session.

Open classrooms

Years 2, 3 and 6 on Wednesday 5th January 3.15pm - 5.30pm
Early Years, Years 1, 4 and 5 on Thursday 6th January 3.15pm - 5.30pm

We are opening the classrooms so you can look at your child's work ahead of virtual Parents' Evening next week. Your child's work will be in their tray covered with a named sheet of paper. Please note teachers will not be available on Wednesday or Thursday.

We are concerned about the rising Covid cases and we have started to see an impact on our staffing so please be aware teachers will not be available on Wednesday or Thursday. We are reluctant to cancel the sessions as we know seeing your child's classroom and their work is important to some (especially those who are new to Phil & Jim), however please could we ask you to be aware of the number of other parents in your child's classroom and wait outside if it becomes too busy.

Please enter and leave your child's classroom through the courtyards. If you are visiting more than one classroom, please do so via the courtyard exit and entrance. *Safeguarding: Please could I ask that you stay in your child's classroom and not to enter the main school because we have children in after school club moving around the school.*

Parents' Evening

You should have received an appointment to meet virtually with your child's teacher. Appointments have been scheduled for **Tuesday 11th January or Thursday 13th January**. Please note the office staff have tried to match your request with availability, however you may not receive the exact time you requested.

Please contact Ms Underwood by telephoning the school on 01865 311064 or by sending an email to office@philandjim.org.uk, to discuss any queries with your appointment.

I look forward to seeing you tomorrow morning.

Yours sincerely,



Sarah Awuye
Headteacher



Extended Schools News

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to Spring Term.

As I shared with you before Christmas, this term we are running a more structured ASC programme with integrated extra-curricular clubs run by our own staff, rather than by outside providers. We will keep this under review. Please visit our website for our [Spring Term timetable](#).

Change in ASC location for children in Years 3- 6

We have needed to change the location for our Year 3- 6 ASC. From tomorrow, please collect your child from the school hall door from 4.15pm. If you wish to collect your child before 4.15pm, please do so via the school office.

Best Wishes,

Mr. Prew
Extended Services Manager

Dates for your Diary

Spring Term dates	
INSET (school closed for pupils)	Tuesday 4 th January
Spring term starts	Wednesday 5 th January
Open classroom to see your child's work for Year 2, Year 3 and Year 6	Wednesday 5 th January 3.15pm and 5.30pm
Open classroom to see your child's work for EYFS, Year 1, Year 4 and Year 5	Thursday 6 th January 3.15pm and 5.30pm
Virtual Parents' Evening appointments	Tuesday 11 th January
Virtual Parents' Evening appointments	Thursday 13 th January