



# Hebburn Comprehensive School

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Head Teacher: Mr D R Thompson

DRT/KM

9 September 2021

Dear Parent/Carer

As pupils return to school, I am writing to confirm arrangements for isolation and test and trace.

## MIXING AND BUBBLES

Schools are no longer required to have year groups in separate 'bubbles'. This means that pupils have full access to all classrooms, allowing us to deliver a full curriculum in all subjects. As parents and carers are aware, we will be retaining the day structure from last year and pupils will have separate yards at break and lunchtime.

## FACE COVERINGS

Pupils are no longer required to wear face coverings, but it is recommended that pupils wear them on corridors because more pupils will be mixing this year.

## TESTING

Twice weekly testing will start again in the new term. The government is going to review this at the end of September.

## CONTROL MEASURES

The most recent government guidance specifies the following control measures that schools should follow:

- Good hand and respiratory hygiene - regular hand washing and following the principle of 'Catch it, Bin it, Kill it'.
- Thorough cleaning regimes
- Keeping spaces well ventilated
- Following Public Health advice on testing, self-isolating and managing confirmed cases of COVID-19

## TEST AND TRACE

Schools are no longer required to carry out contact tracing, other than in exceptional circumstances. This will now be fully managed by NHS Test and Trace.

Children under the age of 18 years and 6 months will no longer be required to isolate if they are a close contact. Instead, they will be contacted by NHS Test and Trace and advised to take a PCR test.

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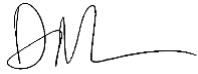


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Children do not have to isolate while waiting for an appointment or waiting for the result. If the PCR test is positive, children must isolate. Pupils will also have to isolate following a positive lateral flow test until the result is confirmed by a PCR test.

Please note that measures may be brought back in if there is a spike in cases or there is a local outbreak. We will work closely with our local Public Health team and will inform parents and carers if this happens.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'DM', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Mr D R Thompson  
**Head Teacher**