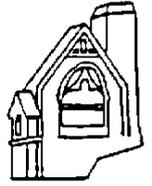




LIONEL WALDEN PRIMARY SCHOOL



Headteacher - Mrs Sally-Anne Barnard-Taylor

High Street
Doddington
March
Cambridgeshire
PE15 0TF

Tel: 01354 740405
Fax: 01354 741514
Email: office@lionelwalden.cambs.sch.uk
Website: www.lionelwalden.cambs.sch.uk

9th December 2020

Dear Parents/Carers

IMPORTANT COVID-19 INFORMATION UPDATE

Yesterday, the Department for Education (DfE) announced that schools are permitted to make Friday 18th December a 'non-teaching' day. I am writing to reassure you that we do not plan to amend our term dates or our scheduled professional development (training) days at any point during this academic year as we recognise the significant effect this will have on families. **This means our last day of term for pupils will remain Friday 18th December.**

This does not in any way compromise our commitment to follow contact tracing procedures as a school. The Government's published guidance is a little unclear as to how educational settings will fulfil this requirement. I am, therefore, writing to explain how our school will manage this commitment between the end of term and Christmas Eve.

Below is an extract from the DfE guidance:

*"Where a pupil or staff member tests positive for coronavirus (COVID-19), having developed symptoms more than 48 hours since being in school, the school should **not** be contacted. Parents and carers should follow contact tracing instructions provided by NHS Test and Trace.*

For the first 6 days after teaching ends, if a pupil or staff member tests positive for coronavirus (COVID-19), having developed symptoms within 48 hours of being in school, the school is asked to assist in identifying close contacts and advising self-isolation, as the individual may have been infectious whilst in school.

School staff are not asked to remain on-call or conduct any contact tracing more than 6 days after the final day of teaching. Where a school's last teaching day is on Thursday 17 December, there should be no pupil contact tracing asks beyond Wednesday 23 December."

As we have made the decision to remain open on Friday 18th December, I have summarised the information for Lionel Walden in the following table:



Symptoms began (or date of positive test, if asymptomatic)	Between Monday 14 th and Friday 18 th December	On Saturday 19 th December	On Sunday 20 th December	Between Monday 21 st December and Monday 4 th January
Action Required	Parent to inform school immediately. School will notify individuals within respective bubble who may have come into contact. Notified individuals will have to self-isolate for 14 days	Parents to inform school immediately. School will notify individuals within respective bubble who may have come into contact on Thursday 17 th and Friday 18 th December. Notified individuals will have to self-isolate for 14 days	Parent to inform school immediately. School will notify individuals within respective bubble who may have come into contact on Friday 18 th December. Notified individuals will have to self-isolate for 14 days	Unless testing was delayed following onset of symptoms, case was not in school setting and therefore there is no need to contact school.
	In the event of a confirmed case between the close of school on Friday 18 th December and Thursday 24 th December, the parent must email the School Office immediately at: office@lionelwalden.cambs.sch.uk			
Parental Responsibility	Parents to notify close contact family and friends and follow advice as per NHS Covid-19 guidelines http://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/			

To ensure these arrangements work effectively in minimising the risk of compromising families' Christmas breaks, please adhere to the following:

- Parents to **seek tests via testing centres** rather than via postal tests as this can significantly delay confirmation of results. Results are normally forthcoming in 24 hours via test centres.
- Parents to notify school if children have symptoms after school closes (as outlined above) - even when waiting for a test result, families can be advised to take necessary steps whilst awaiting confirmation.
- To minimise the risk of infection within school (and the wider community), please continue to adhere to government restrictions and social distancing protocol.

If you are unsure about any of these arrangements, please contact me via the School Office.

Yours sincerely
S A Barnard-Taylor

Mrs S A Barnard-Taylor
Headteacher

