



Slaley First School

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Headteacher: Mrs. Angela Hayward
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Monday 6th September 2021

Dear Parent / Carers,

As you will be aware, the government confirmed that it was moving to 'step 4' of its covid-19 roadmap from 19th July.

As a result, new guidance for schools has been published by the Department for Education and Public Health England. This latest guidance will have implications for arrangements in school from September. You can read it in full at the DfE website or by following this link:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/actions-for-schools-during-the-coronavirus-outbreak/schools-covid-19-operational-guidance>

As you are aware, school will re-open to all children tomorrow and as safety continues to be our priority I just wanted you all to be aware of the measures we are continuing to take in the light of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic:

- children will be continually encouraged to clean their hands on a regular basis with hand gel /or soap
- windows will be open as much as practicably possible at least 15 minutes before lessons. Internal classroom doors (not fire doors) will also be left open to aid ventilation where safeguarding is not compromised
- children who are displaying any of the following symptoms as outlined in the guidance, high temperature, continuous cough and/or loss of taste or smell, will be sent home
- parents are strongly advised to wear a mask on site (unless exempt) and staff will wear these whilst at the doors or in contact with parents in the school yard
- ONLY essential visitors into school will be permitted

The government also said that from 16th August, children will no longer be required to automatically self-isolate if they are contacted by NHS Test and Trace as a close contact of a positive covid-19 case. Instead, you may be advised to take your child for a PCR test if they have been deemed to be in close contact with a positive case.

Keeping our community safe:

I am very aware that there will be a wide range of views among families regarding these latest government announcements. As you will understand, as a school we are expected to have due regard for this new national guidance, as well as the additional local guidance provided to us by Northumberland County Council. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of you for your ongoing support as we continue to navigate this challenging situation.

Looking forward to seeing you all tomorrow!

Kind regards,
Angela Hayward
Headteacher