

WILLIAM BARNES PRIMARY SCHOOL
Bridge Street
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2nd September 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope you have all managed to have a lovely summer break and are all well. All our staff at school are well and eagerly awaiting our children's return on 7th September.

You may be aware that the government sent some updated guidance to schools on 29th August. There are some amendments but no major changes. I have attached an updated Risk assessment with a few tweaks. Please note the Government have said that if anyone has a positive test they are now to isolate for 10 days not 7 days. Please be assured if we have any positive cases Public Health England and the Local Authority will support and guide us.

From the updated guidance:

System of controls

This is the set of actions schools must take. They are grouped into 'prevention' and 'response to any infection' and are outlined in more detail in the following sections.

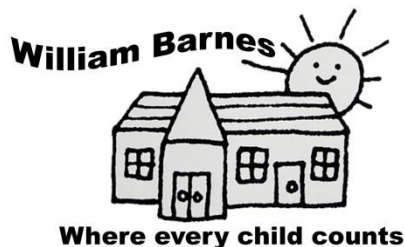
Prevention

- 1) Minimise contact with individuals who are unwell by ensuring that those who have coronavirus (COVID-19) symptoms, or who have someone in their household who does, do not attend school.
- 2) Where recommended, use of face coverings in schools.
- 3) Clean hands thoroughly more often than usual.
- 4) Ensure good respiratory hygiene by promoting the 'catch it, bin it, kill it' approach.
- 5) Introduce enhanced cleaning, including cleaning frequently touched surfaces often, using standard products such as detergents and bleach.
- 6) Minimise contact between individuals and maintain social distancing wherever possible.



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7) Where necessary, wear appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE).

Numbers 1 to 5 must be in place in all schools, all the time.

Number 6 must be properly considered and schools must put in place measures that suit their particular circumstances.

Number 7 applies in specific circumstances.

Response to any infection

8) Engage with the NHS Test and Trace process.

9) Manage confirmed cases of coronavirus (COVID-19) amongst the school community.

10) Contain any outbreak by following local health protection team advice.

Numbers 8 to 10 must be followed in every case where they are relevant.

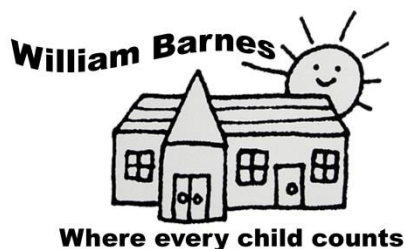
Please be aware that the use of face coverings for Primary pupils is not required. Adults can wear them in communal areas and in meetings if they wish to do so.

Numbers 8-10 above may require school to share pupil/parent contact information with public health officials. This sharing of information is permissible under current law and is in line with data protection guidance covering schools.



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Response to any infection

8. Engage with the NHS Test and Trace process

Schools must ensure they understand the NHS Test and Trace process and how to contact their local [Public Health England health protection team](#). Schools must ensure that staff members and parents/carers understand that they will need to be ready and willing to:

- [book a test](#) if they or their child are displaying symptoms. Staff and pupils must not come into the school if they have symptoms and must be sent home to self-isolate if they develop them in school. All children can be tested, including children under 5, but children aged 11 and under will need to be helped by their parents/carers if using a home testing kit
- provide details of anyone they or their child have been in close contact with if they were to test positive for coronavirus (COVID-19) or if asked by NHS Test and Trace
- [self-isolate](#) if they have been in close contact with someone who tests positive for coronavirus (COVID-19), or if anyone in their household develops symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19)

Anyone who displays symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19) can and should get a test. Tests can be booked online through the NHS [testing and tracing for coronavirus](#) website, or ordered by telephone via NHS 119 for those without access to the internet. Essential workers, which includes anyone involved in education or childcare, have priority access to testing.

The government will ensure that it is as easy as possible to get a test through a wide range of routes that are locally accessible, fast and convenient. We will release more details on new testing avenues as and when they become available and will work with schools so they understand the quickest and easiest way to get a test. By the autumn term, all schools will be provided with a small number of home testing kits that they can give directly to parents/carers collecting a child who has developed symptoms at school, or staff who have developed symptoms at school, where they think providing one will significantly increase the likelihood of them getting tested. Advice will be provided alongside these kits.

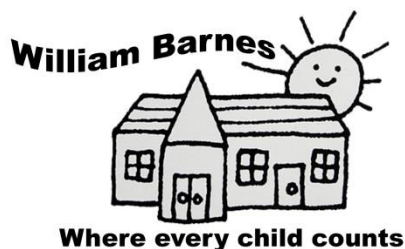
Schools should ask parents and staff to inform them immediately of the results of a test and follow this guidance.

1. If someone tests negative, if they feel well and no longer have symptoms similar to coronavirus (COVID-19), they can stop self-isolating. They could still have another virus, such as a cold or flu – in which case it is still best to avoid contact with other people until they are better. Other members of their household can stop self-isolating.



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2. If someone tests positive, they should follow the [guidance for households with possible or confirmed coronavirus \(COVID-19\) infection](#) and must continue to self-isolate for at least 10 days from the onset of their symptoms and then return to school only if they do not have symptoms other than cough or loss of sense of smell/taste. This is because a cough or anosmia can last for several weeks once the infection has gone. The 10-day period starts from the day when they first became ill. If they still have a high temperature, they should keep self-isolating until their temperature returns to normal. Other members of their household should continue self-isolating for the full 14 days.

9. Manage confirmed cases of coronavirus (COVID-19) amongst the school community

Schools must take swift action when they become aware that someone who has attended has tested positive for coronavirus (COVID-19). Schools should contact the local health protection team. This team will also contact schools directly if they become aware that someone who has tested positive for coronavirus (COVID-19) attended the school – as identified by NHS Test and Trace.

The health protection team will carry out a rapid risk assessment to confirm who has been in close contact with the person during the period that they were infectious, and ensure they are asked to self-isolate.

The health protection team will work with schools in this situation to guide them through the actions they need to take. Based on the advice from the health protection team, schools must send home those people who have been in close contact with the person who has tested positive, advising them to self-isolate for 14 days since they were last in close contact with that person when they were infectious. Close contact means:

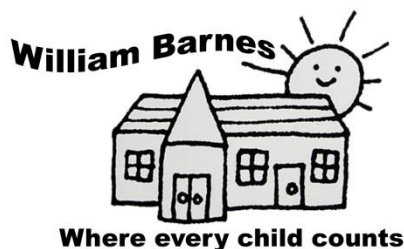
- direct close contacts - face to face contact with an infected individual for any length of time, within 1 metre, including being coughed on, a face to face conversation, or unprotected physical contact (skin-to-skin)
- proximity contacts - extended close contact (within 1 to 2 metres for more than 15 minutes) with an infected individual
- travelling in a small vehicle, like a car, with an infected person

The health protection team will provide definitive advice on who must be sent home.



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The summary for the return of our children is as before:

From 7th September all children will return to school. Attendance is now a legal requirement once more. School uniform will now be worn again. Please can I also remind you that we would like long hair to be tied up and no extreme hair styles or dyed hair.

Starting times are: Years 5 & 6 8.30, 3&4 8.35, 2 8.40, 1 8.45. Siblings can come in together. Parents will need to leave their child at the school gate. Please could only one parent accompany a child and please still respect social distancing. Adults and children are to stand in a socially distanced line behind their Year group signs, which are on the gates, Mrs Wrixon will be on the playground to let you know when to come in. Please could parents email class teachers to let them know if their child will be coming in at a different time with a sibling. Could parents also email to let class teachers know if a child will be picked up later with their older sibling so that the child does not have to wait outside for a longer time.

Our new Reception will come in at 9.00am. Staff will be there to greet them at the gate so they can say goodbye to their parents and head straight into class.

Breakfast and Afterschool Club will run. There will be a bell at the gate to press so that a member of staff can come out of the hall and welcome the children in and to see them out at the end of the session. Children will sit in Year group tables.

Please can I remind you that the school car park is for staff only and parents who have permission to park there.

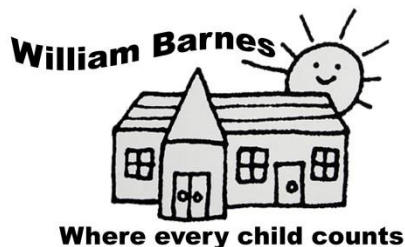
At the end of the day R, 1, ,2 will leave at 3.00pm and 3,4,5, 6 at 3.15pm. Older children cannot come out earlier and so younger children with older siblings could wait until 3.15 with the teacher if necessary. Please can parents or those picking up, wait in a socially distanced line behind their Year group sign and the teachers will send your child out to you. Please can you then leave straight away and not stay to talk on the driveway.

Please could all children bring in a packed lunch, unless you have asked for a school packed lunch, and a water bottle. Children will not be able to share bottles and we would prefer them to have their own rather than use a cup. (If it is hot please can children bring in a hat and sun cream as necessary) Please do not bring in large bags or large pencil cases. If a child brings in their own pencils or equipment it will need to stay in school. Please try to ensure your child has everything with them when they arrive so that we don't have parents coming back in the day to drop off things. For years 5 and 6 on PE days they will come in their PE kit and school jumper, tracksuit as necessary so that they do not need to change in separate areas.



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Our fantastic cleaners Mrs Fran Ridout and Mrs Jo Dyke have been doing a wonderful job of thoroughly cleaning all the classrooms during the summer holiday. They will continue to ensure all key points are thoroughly cleaned every day, along with staff who will also be regularly cleaning key points.

Please can you read through the Risk assessment and talk to your child about any changes and behaviour expectations for September.

We will be sending you information about how remote learning will take place in event of a local lockdown. We will also send home with your child a pack of work for two days, to be done in event of self-isolating while awaiting a test result.

As ever our children are at the heart of everything we all do. Please do not hesitate to email the class teacher or myself if you have any questions.

See you all on 7th!

Best wishes
Karen Wrixon



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