



**Ancaster**  
Church of England Primary School  
Monday 8<sup>th</sup> March 2021

## **Welcome Back and FAQs**

Dear Parents and Carers,

Wow! Today has been so exceptional! I have literally never seen so many smiles and happy faces-it is so clear what our school means to everyone and it was a privilege to visit each classroom today and say hello.

I hope you have all enjoyed your Monday and that the children had a wonderful day with lots to tell you when they got home (I know my own son has not stopped talking since he was picked up tonight-suddenly, he has depth, light and colour in his life once again)...it is funny that if you once said to the children that they could stay away from school for 2 months, the thought would have been an exciting prospect whereas now, we have all lived and breathed this reality and it is togetherness and connections that we crave and being in school is what is needed and is necessary not only from an educational standpoint but also to protect mental health and wellbeing. I have put together a few questions and answers for parents and carers to help navigate our reopening-if there is anything more specific you would like to ask, please do not hesitate to get into contact.

### **How will the next period of time work?**

As we come back from this lockdown, levels of stamina will have dropped in terms of what the children can achieve every day and the children will be eased back into the rigours of everyday schooling gradually to ensure that they can cope with the demands being placed upon them as they assimilate themselves back into school life. We will work with your child to assess their knowledge and skills in a variety of different areas, we will see how much learning has been retained from the remote learning that has taken place as well as ensure that any misconceptions that may have arisen over the last couple of months are addressed swiftly whilst helping the children revisit previous learning and introduce new content alongside our catch up programmes. Each teacher will continue to develop your child's love of learning and foster their passions and enthusiasm in the same way that we have always done with the ultimate goal of helping each child be the best they can be.

### **What if my child is finding coming back to school difficult?**

Transitioning back into school may be difficult for some children and we ask that you let us know if your child is experiencing any difficulties settling back in; we will do everything we can to support your child and family and are always here to help wherever we can!

### **Can parents access lateral flow tests?**

*The following information has been provided by the DfE.*

Undertaking regular, rapid coronavirus (COVID-19) testing helps reduce transmission of the virus. Parents and other adults in households with children at school or college, who do not have symptoms, can now access regular, rapid coronavirus (COVID-19) testing. This includes childcare and support bubbles. Tests are fast, easy and completely free.

There are [different ways](#) for a household, childcare or support bubble to collect their test to take at home, twice-weekly:

Ancaster Church of England Primary School  
Mercia Drive Grantham NG32 3QQ

Tel: 01400 230871 Email: [enquiries@ancaster.lincs.sch.uk](mailto:enquiries@ancaster.lincs.sch.uk) Web: [www.ancasterprimary.org.uk](http://www.ancasterprimary.org.uk)  
Head Teacher: Mr Sam Eden



Ancaster  
Church of England Primary School

- through your employer, if they offer testing to employees
- by collecting a home test kit from a local test site – anyone aged 18 or over can collect 2 packs of 7 tests
- by ordering a home test kit online – please do not order online if you can access testing through other routes, this frees up home delivery for those who need it most

If you have any queries about the tests, and you live in England, please call 119 (free from mobiles and landlines). Lines are open every day from 7am to 11pm.

**Children of primary school age (and below) without symptoms are not being asked to take a test.**

Testing is voluntary, but strongly recommended to all who are eligible. Alongside the vaccine, washing hands, wearing face coverings, and maintaining social distancing, rapid testing plays a vital role in reducing transmission rates. Getting into the habit of regular testing as part of our everyday lives will help us all to play our part and do what we can to protect each other.

*Staff in school undertake these tests twice per week and we can confirm that they are quick and effective as well as offering peace of mind to the person being tested.*

**What should we do if someone in our household develops symptoms of Covid-19?**

Please follow all of the usual guidelines that have now been in place for some time and ensure that the whole household lockdown, a test for the symptomatic person is ordered and administered and await the test result. As soon as you know your result, please let the school office know and a plan can then be put into place for the child to return to school or for remote learning to be established if there is a positive case within the family.

**Will bubbles still be closed if there are positive cases of Covid-19 in a class?**

Yes-all of the procedures for stopping the spread of Covid-19 remain in place as they did before Christmas. We hope that all of the elements that have been implemented will reduce the risk of this happening but we cannot promise that we will not have positive cases in school and therefore should this happen, we will need to close bubbles in order to ensure that maximum protection is given to everyone involved. If this instance was to occur, we will be in touch with you as soon as we need to.

As I said earlier. I hope that your child has had a wonderful day-we shall look forward to seeing everyone again tomorrow for another brilliant fun filled, action packed learning. Please help us to keep the school open by remembering to follow the current rules and guidelines. Despite schools being able to reopen fully, there is still a strong stay at home message which is in place for the coming weeks and children should not be mixing household bubbles outside of school. When on site, please follow your timings for the staggered starts, wear facemasks if you are able to and keep your distance from other households and families as best as you possibly can. Try to avoid talking directly to school staff-you can use your reading records or email the staff member directly and exit the school site as swiftly as possible at the beginning and end of the day.

Welcome back everyone, it is such a pleasure to be open again. We truly appreciate all of your support with everything and thank you for working with us to help ensure that everyone can be the best they can be!

Yours Sincerely,

Mr Sam Eden  
Headteacher

Ancaster Church of England Primary School  
Mercia Drive Grantham NG32 3QQ

Tel: 01400 230871 Email: [enquiries@ancaster.lincs.sch.uk](mailto:enquiries@ancaster.lincs.sch.uk) Web: [www.ancasterprimary.org.uk](http://www.ancasterprimary.org.uk)  
Head Teacher: Mr Sam Eden