



Friday 7th January 2022

Dear parents,

Welcome back to a New Year and a new term. I hope you were able to have an enjoyable Christmas with your loved ones and family.

The teachers have been busy planning lots of exciting learning for this term with the topics relating to 'Earth and Space'. We very much hope to be able to widen our experiences within the next few months (all depending upon restrictions) and further into 2022!

In anticipation of this we would like to invite you to volunteer in school. In order to do so you will need to complete a DBS check, we can then add you to our system. Please email families@bishopstawton-primary.org if you think you would be interested and we will contact you with further information.

As with many other establishments we have been experiencing considerable staffing issues due to COVID and other situations. This means that we are having to be flexible with our approach and are not able to meet all the expectations of the role. This may impact upon childcare, clubs, interventions, staffing changes and meetings etc... Please be patient and bear with us during this time. As always, the safety and wellbeing of the children is our first priority.

Clubs

After school clubs re-start next week. Art and Construction clubs are fully booked and you will have received an email today to confirm your child's place on the relevant club. Please let us know if your child no longer requires their place as we have a waiting list. If you are able to offer to run an after-school club in the future, then please get in contact.

Primary Admissions

The closing date for applying for a September 2022 primary school place closes on **15th January 2022**. Please click [here](#) to apply.

Langtree Primary School Partnership

Our Partnership with Langtree Primary School continues into 2022. Governors invite you to a 'meet and greet' with them in order for you to ask questions and explore what partnership working entails. We will, of course, update you on any aspects that may impact upon our school.

Meet and greet with Governors **Tuesday 11th January 5.30-7pm** in Barum class (please wear a mask).

Updated Guidance

The government has updated "What parents and carers need to know about early years providers, schools and colleges" Pasted below are the main changes, please click [here](#) to read all of the up to date information.

Symptoms and testing

Testing remains important in reducing the risk of transmission of infection within nurseries, schools and colleges. Continuing to take regular rapid tests will help you to identify infections early and reduce transmission. Education and childcare staff, secondary school pupils and college students should continue to test twice weekly at home, with lateral flow device (LFD) test kits, 3 to 4 days apart. Testing remains voluntary but is strongly encouraged. Further information on daily rapid testing can be found in the [tracing close contacts and isolation section](#).

There is no need for primary age pupils (those in year 6 and below) to test regularly, unless they have been identified as a contact for someone who has tested positive for COVID-19 and therefore take lateral flow tests every day for 7 days.

Parents and other visitors are strongly advised to take a lateral flow device (LFD) test before entering a childminder, nursery, school or college.

If the number of positive cases substantially increases in your nursery, school, college, or area, you might be advised to increase the use of lateral flow device (LFD) testing. This could also include advice on the reintroduction of onsite LFD testing.

We recognise that there will be a wide range of challenges in delivering effective testing to children with SEND. We have developed specific [guidance for testing in specialist settings](#) to fully consider their needs and the flexibilities which may be required.

Positive rapid lateral flow test results

Anyone with a positive test result will need to self-isolate in line with the [stay at home guidance](#) (if they test positive at school, you should arrange for them to be collected).

You should follow the [latest government guidance](#) on confirmatory PCR tests following a positive LFD test.

If you suspect your child has coronavirus or has a positive test

Do not send your child to their nursery, childminder, school, college or to an entry test for a selective school if:

- *they are showing one or more [coronavirus \(COVID-19\) symptoms](#)*
- *they have had a positive test result*
- *there are other reasons requiring them to stay at home, for example, they are [required to quarantine](#)*

You should follow public health advice on [when to self-isolate and what to do](#).

If you insist on your child attending nursery, school, or college when they have symptoms, they can take the decision to refuse your child if, in their reasonable judgement, it is necessary to protect other pupils and staff from possible infection with COVID-19. Their decision would need to be carefully considered in light of all the circumstances and current public health advice.

If a pupil in a boarding school shows symptoms, they should usually self-isolate in their residential setting so that their usual support can continue, others may then benefit from self-isolating in their family home.

For everyone with symptoms, they should avoid using public transport and, wherever possible, be collected by a member of their family or household.

Dates:

Saturday 15th January – Primary allocation Closes

Tuesday 11th January – 5.30-7pm Meet & Greet with governors

Wednesday 12th January – PTFA 7.30pm online (Please email if you would like the link for the meeting)

21-25th February - Half Term