



2021-2022 Covid-19 Protocol

Access to School

- Parental access to the school will resume, however parents and other visitors are asked to contact the office prior to their arrival
- Arrival to and departure from Falkner House will revert back to normal. Please see Parent Guide - Logistics for details
- Parents of children in Year 6 are encouraged to allow their children to walk to school even if it is from the end of Brechin Place or Penywern Road
- Pupils who arrive later than their allotted time should use the front door at 19 Brechin Place or 20 Penywern Road

Bubbles

- It is no longer advised to keep children in consistent groups ('bubbles'). This means that bubbles will not be used in school from the autumn term. Not only will this allow more flexibility in curriculum delivery, assemblies and all music ensembles can now resume.
- We would, of course, follow government guidance if 'bubbles' were to be required for a temporary period to reduce mixing between groups.

Infection Control and Protection

- Self-isolation is no longer a requirement for adults who are classed as fully vaccinated or those under 18. This means children and staff will still be able to attend, even if they are alerted by NHS Test and Trace or the NHS COVID-19 app that they have been in close contact with a positive case. To be classed as fully vaccinated, adults will need to have had a full course of an approved vaccine followed by a two-week period to allow the vaccination to have full effect.
- Fully vaccinated adults and children aged five to 18 will be advised to take a PCR test if they are identified as a contact. However, this will not be a legal requirement and people who are contacts will not have to self-isolate while they wait for a test or their results.
- Children who are aged under five-years-old who are identified as close contacts will only be advised to take a PCR test if the positive case is within their own household. This will be advised by NHS Test and Trace.
- If children are in close-contact with someone who tests positive, we ask that they have a negative lateral flow test before returning to school.
- The rules on self-isolation still apply if a person develops symptoms and is awaiting a test, or if they test positive for COVID-19.
- Pupils will be encouraged to wash their hands regularly with soap and hot water.
- School staff will be supplied with lateral flow testing kits and will be encouraged to carry out twice weekly tests at home.
- Doors and windows will be open in the classrooms to maximise ventilation.
- There is no longer a requirement to social distance within school.

Cleaning

- A thorough deep clean of the school has taken place. The school will continue be cleaned in the middle of the day and at the end of each day with particular attention being paid to surfaces that are touched regularly including door handles and stair bannisters.
- Bathrooms will be checked regularly and cleaned at least twice a day.

Medical Considerations

- Pupils and staff feeling unwell will be temperature tested by a member of the office.
- If any child develops Covid-19 symptoms whilst at school, they will be taken to the sick bay by a member of staff to await collection. Parents will be contacted and asked to collect their child immediately and to arrange for testing using the following link: <https://www.nhs.uk/ask-for-a-coronavirus-test>. The test result must be negative before they are allowed to return to school.
- If a case of Covid-19 is confirmed (pupil or member of staff) the school will immediately inform Public Health England who will dictate the protocol to be followed in terms of who is required to isolate and also informing the school community.

Catering

- School lunches will return to nearly normal operation though some classes will eat in their classrooms on some days each week.
- All cutlery and crockery will be thoroughly washed and will be sterilised.
- The kitchen tables and benches will be cleaned after each serving.

Further Measures if required

- We will ask for the children in the relevant class to take additional lateral flow tests – potentially every day or before the start of the week if there is spread in their year group.
- Splitting assemblies and hymn practice (upper school and lower school). If your child is due to play in prayers they will still be invited in to play for the lower school. Parents are very welcome to attend.
- Sports squads (e.g. swimming and cross country) which are mixed age groups will continue as usual but the children will be separated on the bus and will wear masks. They will also be separated for changing at the pool.
- Other mixed age group clubs, e.g. cookery will also continue, however, there is always the option to put these on hold. We would, of course, adjust the charges appropriately.
- Classes to eat lunch in their classrooms.
- The playground to be divided into upper school and lower school areas and children encouraged to play within their own age group.
- Children to wear masks on the bus to PE.
- Children are welcome to wear masks in school if they wish.
- Early and late birds split so that the upper school use their own classrooms as their base if they are in early or staying late.
- If preventative measures are not working, consideration will be given to sending year groups home if agreed with DfE and Public Health England.

Further Guidance

The latest government guidance for parents on the re-opening of schools can be found at the following link:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/what-parents-and-carers-need-to-know-about-early-years-providers-schools-and-colleges-during-the-coronavirus-covid-19-outbreak/what-parents-need-to-know-about-early-years-providers-schools-and-colleges-during-covid-19>