



**Tenterfield Nursery School**  
London Road, Welwyn, Hertfordshire, AL6 9JF  
Tel: 01438 714564

**Headteacher: Vicky Beare**

**“Working together so that everyone can shine”**

Dear Parents/Carers,

Happy New Year!

I hope that you have all enjoyed the last two weeks and have had some quality family time together over the festive season. I also hope you have all stayed well and not had your plans disrupted due to Covid-19!

The Department for Education have emailed all Headteachers with an update, prior to our return on Wednesday 5th January.

The majority of guidelines issued do not apply to nursery-aged pupils and as such, there are no significant changes to our practice at Tenterfield. We will carry on with our current practices which include frequent staff testing, stringent cleaning and effective ventilation.

#### Positive Cases and Isolation

We need to continue to log positive cases in school and use the information provided by you to monitor the spread within our school community and also update the local authority, when appropriate. For this reason, please do let the school office know if your child is not going to be in school and also the reason for the absence. We will be following up any unexplained absences on a regular basis so providing full information on symptoms helps reduce the number of phone calls being made each day.

On 22nd December, changes came into force relating to the isolation period for confirmed positive Covid cases. Individuals may now take LFD tests on day 6 and day 7 of their self-isolation period. Those who receive two negative test results are no longer required to complete 10 full days of self-isolation. The first test must be taken no earlier than day 6 of the self-isolation period and tests must be taken 24 hours apart. This also applies to children under 5, with LFD testing at parental or guardian discretion. If both these test results are negative, and you do not have a high temperature, you may end your self-isolation after the second negative test result and return to your education setting from day 8. Anyone who is unable to carry out a lateral flow test should complete the full ten-day isolation period.

Fully vaccinated adults who have been identified as a close contact of a positive case, are asked to test daily (LFTs) rather than isolate, and as long as they deliver negative results, they should continue to attend school. If they return a positive result or have symptoms, then they should isolate and request a PCR test. Depending on the outcome they can follow the timings for isolation as above.

Children under 5 are not being advised to take part in daily testing of close contacts. If a child under 5 is a contact of a confirmed case, they are not required to self-isolate and should not start daily testing. If they live in the same household as someone with COVID-19 they should limit their contact with anyone who is at higher risk of severe illness if infected with COVID-19, and arrange to take a PCR test as soon as possible. They can continue to attend an education or childcare setting while waiting for the PCR result

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[admin@tenterfield.herts.sch.uk](mailto:admin@tenterfield.herts.sch.uk)  
[www.tenterfield.herts.sch.uk](http://www.tenterfield.herts.sch.uk)

Hertfordshire County Council

(as long as they are not symptomatic.) If the test is positive, they should follow the [stay at home: guidance for households with possible or confirmed COVID-19 infection](#)

### Absence

If your child is absent from school for Covid reasons, you can contact your child's keyworker (via the school office) to make sure you have everything needed to support their learning at home, should they be well enough, for the time they are off.

The government has made it possible in this latest guidance to switch to remote provision for a group of pupils should a school not be able to adequately (and safely) staff the teaching in school. This will be for as short a period as possible and of course, will very much be a last resort. We will always follow guidance and advice from Hertfordshire public health.

### Illness

As you are aware, the virus is changing with new variants which did not necessarily have any of the classic symptoms. In these cases, they tend to be sore throat, runny nose, headache, upset tummy and fatigue. Please bear this in mind when making the decision whether to send your child to school if they are unwell. I know there may be a number of childhood illnesses which have similar symptoms but please be cautious to safeguard our school community, and you know your child best. We hope that if everyone adheres carefully to the above advice, then it will avoid children and staff testing positive as the new variant is highly contagious and therefore can impact on staffing levels. We are also aware that we have vulnerable individuals within our whole Tenterfield family. We will be sending children home who we feel are not well enough to be at nursery, or present symptoms of Covid-19.

If your child is currently positive with COVID please do email [admin@tenterfield.herts.sch.uk](mailto:admin@tenterfield.herts.sch.uk) with their isolation dates so we can amend the register accordingly prior to the school term and your child's keyworker can make any necessary contact.

Looking forward to seeing you all again tomorrow!

Mrs Beare

P.S....Some great news! Our brand new interactive whiteboard is arriving in the morning thanks to your amazing sponsored-walk fundraising event! A great way to kick off the start of 2022!! Thank you :)