

Iron Acton CEVC Primary School
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Headteacher: Mike Riches



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Important Covid information

This newsletter contains important information to help you remain well informed about any changes to the way school looks ahead of the new academic year. All changes are in line with guidance from the Government and the Local Authority. Please contact the school office if you have any further questions and we will get back to you as soon as possible. I'd like to take this opportunity to welcome all of our new families in both in our Reception class as well as those joining other classes too.

Thank you, Mike Riches

Absence

If your child tests positive for Covid using a PCR test they will need to self-isolate for a period of 10 days. Please notify the school by phone or email if this is the case.

Bubble system

A bubble system will no longer be in place. This means that children from all classes will be able to mix with each other throughout the school day. This system was previously in place to reduce the number of children required to self-isolate after coming into contact with a positive case.

Self-isolation

If a child or a member of staff at school tests positive for Covid, we will no longer be required to send close contacts home for a period of self-isolation or to engage in remote learning. Instead, close contacts will be contacted by NHS Track and Trace and informed that they should seek a PCR test. Whilst waiting for the results of a PCR test, no self-isolation will be required. If the PCR test returns a positive result, a period of self-isolation of 10 days would then commence for that person.

Please note: schools are no longer expected to form part of the track and trace process so families will not necessarily hear from school should a positive case occur. The Government expects all children to continue attending school as normal unless they test positive for Covid.

Risk assessment measures

Central to our statutory risk assessment remain some key areas designed to reduce the spread of Covid within the school. These include:

1. Ensuring all areas of the school are well-ventilated throughout the school day
2. Ensuring effective hand and respiratory hygiene
3. Ensuring thorough and effective cleaning regimes are in place
4. Utilising the outdoors when possible, for example for whole school assemblies



Arriving at school

When arriving at school both at morning drop off or afternoon pick up times, a slightly altered one way system will be in place. Families will be asked to access the school through the main driveway to the left of the school, to cross in front of the school building then to access the playground through the wooden gate at the top of the path.

When leaving school, families will be asked to go through the wooden gate and down the pathway as before.

If your child is in Key Stage 2, we ask that you drop them off and pick them up from the bottom of the hill. We are happy for children going into Year 3 to be accompanied on the first two days of term whilst they settle into a new class. There will always be a member of staff on hand to guide you.

Face masks are no longer required on the playground but you may still choose to use one. However, we would like to encourage you to remain 2 metres apart from others where possible, particularly when speaking to members of staff.

We ask that all adults continue to avoid entering the school building if at all possible.

We will keep you informed of any further developments over the coming weeks. Please rest assured that we will be taking a carefully considered approach and will continue to ensure the safety of all during this time. Please speak to a member of the team or contact the school office if you have any questions or if you are concerned about your child's return to school.

Financial support

Local Authority based

Back to school worries? Let us help take the pressure off. If your finances have been affected by Covid-19 and you are concerned about supporting your family during and after the school holidays, apply now for a grant at <https://beta.southglos.gov.uk/community-resilience-fund/> or you can pop into one of our One Stop Shops in Kingswood, Patchway or Yate <https://www.southglos.gov.uk/council-and-democracy/customer-services/one-stop-shop-clinics-and-surgeries/>. The financial support could include help with paying bills, mortgage/rent, food or nursery fees.

School based

We would also like to make you aware that both St James Church and Acton Aid are able to offer support to those who may need it. Please speak confidentially to the school office if you feel this may apply to you.

Holidays during term time

Many of you will be aware that schools are not able to authorise term time holiday unless in exceptional circumstances. From September, we will not be able to authorise any holiday that was moved from an earlier date due to Covid.

If you feel you may have exceptional circumstances resulting in the need to take your child out of school, please speak to Mr Riches in the first instance.



Breakfast Club and After School Club

Both clubs will begin on Thursday 2nd September. Please contact the school office to book a place.

Breakfast Club begins at 7.45am and costs £4 per session. After School Club runs from 3.15pm until 6pm and costs £8.50 per session.

Term 1 dates for the diary

Event	Date and time	Information
First day of term for Year 1 – Year 6 children	02.09.21 8.55am	
Reception home visits	02.09.21 & 03.09.21	
First day of term for Reception children	06.09.21 8.55am – 12.30pm	
Year 1 – Year 6 visit to church for collective worship	06.09.21	
Reception children in full time	13.09.21 8.55am – 3.15pm	
INSET day	20.09.21	School will be closed for staff training.
Year 5/6 swimming begins	28.09.21	More information will be shared in the new term.
Black History Month begins	01.10.21	
Harvest service	08.10.21 2pm	This will take place at church. We hope to invite all families to attend.
Robin Hood theatre visit	11.10.21	This will take place in the Iron Acton Parish Hall for all children.
Parent / teacher meetings	18.10.21 20.10.21	Appointment times will be shared nearer the time. Please do speak to your child's class teacher before this date if you have any questions or if you'd like to know more about how your child is doing at school.
Flu immunisations for all children	19.10.21	More information will be shared nearer the time.
Outdoor learning day	21.10.21	We aim to spend the whole day learning whilst outside.
Final day of Term 1	21.10.21 3.15pm	
INSET day	22.10.21	School will be closed for staff training.
First day of Term 2	01.11.21 8.55am	

Dates can also be found on our school website: <https://www.ironactonprimaryschool.co.uk/news/>

