

Covid-19 Parent/Carer information for September



We are looking forward to welcoming all of our pupils back to school in September. Many of our pupils have been out of school for an extended period of time and our first priority will be to support pupils with their transition back to school, get them ready for learning and back in to the normal routines of the school day . There will of course need to be increased hygiene and health and safety measures to manage the risk associated with Covid-19.

This guidance is to make all parents/carers aware of the planning that has taken place to manage both the risks associated with Covid-19 and the possibility of any partial or full school closures in the event of Covid-19 cases at Springwell Alternative Academy Lincoln or a local lockdown. Hopefully this will alleviate any worries/anxieties you may have about your child returning to school but please do contact us on 01522 308310 if you have any questions.

A copy of this guidance and a copy of the Covid-19 risk assessment can be found on our website at springwellalternativeacademylincoln.co.uk

'Bubbles'

As our school is small in terms of pupil numbers we will be classed as a whole school bubble. However, in line with Government guidance we will aim to reduce contact as much as possible between groups of pupils and we will continue to operate in our key stage zones as we would normally (Primary, KS3 and KS4)

Transport/Drop off and Pick up

If you child is entitled to local authority transport and usually comes to school in a taxi then this should continue as normal. Lincolnshire County Council have issued a statement to all schools to make us aware that whilst they will do the best they can to provide vehicles which allow for social distancing this may not always be possible. Unfortunately, transport is not arranged by Springwell and this is something we do not have any control over. If you have any concerns regarding school transport you can contact LCC Transport on 01522782020.

If you drop off/pick up your child from school, parent/carers will be expected to follow social distancing guidance. Please wait in the car park where members of staff will be ready to meet and greet your child and take them straight in to school.

Bringing items to school

Pupils must not bring any personal belongings to school. This includes toys, mobile phones or any other items. All classroom equipment such as pens, pencils etc. will be provided and kept on individual pupil desks so that it is not shared with other pupils. Pupils who bring their own lunch to school may bring a lunch box but please can we ask that these are plastic (so that they can be easily wiped on arrival at school and before being taken home) or in a disposable plastic bag which can be thrown away after lunch.

Handwashing

It is important that all pupils follow the expectations regarding handwashing. Please make sure you have discussed the importance of this with your child before they return to school in September.

Pupils must wash their hands at home before leaving for school

Pupils must wash their hands on entering the school building

Pupils must wash their hands thoroughly after using the toilet

Covid-19 Parent/Carer information for September



Pupils must wash their hands before and after eating and drinking

Pupils will be expected to wash their hands if they are moving around the school including at break/playtime. They will wash hands before leaving the classroom and when they return

Pupils will be reminded to wash their hands more frequently throughout the day. Staff will also ensure handwashing follows the PHE/NHS guidance

'Catch it, bin it, kill it'

We will be regularly reminding pupils of the government/NHS Catch it, bin it, kill it campaign. We will encourage children to sneeze into tissue or sleeve NEVER into their hands and will ensure that pupils wash hands immediately after sneezing or blowing their nose.

Each classroom will have a supply of tissues and your child will be reminded of this process.

Face Masks

As guidance currently stands, pupils are not expected to wear a face mask during the school day. If your child travels to school on a bus they will be required to wear a face mask. If your child travels to school in a taxi they may also be required to wear a face mask, we are awaiting further guidance from LCC regarding this. If your child does wear a face mask whilst on transport, on arrival at school they will have to use hand-sanitiser after removing their mask. If it is a disposal mask, they will have to place this in a bin (please ensure they have a new mask for the return journey). If it is a re-usable mask, they will place it in a paper bag (provided by the school), this will be stored by the school and returned at the end of the day.

Restrictive Positive Intervention

The school has a duty of care to ensure all pupils and staff are safe, this can sometimes mean we have to hold a child for their own safety and/or the safety of others. In September, despite the current situation and concerns in relation to Covid-19 restrictive positive intervention may be used following a dynamic risk assessment and for the safety of everyone.

If your child develops Covid-19 symptoms

If your child develops symptoms whilst at home, your child **MUST NOT** attend school. Please notify via our normal attendance procedures. You must also engage in the Test and Trace process and you will be reminded of this when notifying the school of your child's absence. If your child does need a Covid-19 test it is vital you keep the school up to date with regards to test results before your child is able to return to school. Pupils will only be able to return to school if they have had a test with a negative result or after the recommended period of self-isolation if they have a positive result. School may ask to see the text/email after a positive result to ensure that government advice is being followed before a pupil returns to school. If you are notified by the track and trace team that you, your child or anyone in your household has been in close contact with someone who has gone on to develop symptoms your child will need to remain at home and self-isolate for 14 days.

If your child develops symptoms whilst at school, they will be taken to an identified medical/isolation room. You will be notified ASAP and asked to collect your child from school. If you have recently changed your mobile or landline number please make sure you let us know so that we have the most up to date contact numbers. If we are unable to get hold of you, the school will call the other emergency numbers on our system until we manage to speak to someone.

Covid-19 Parent/Carer information for September



Please note that if pupils are displaying any possible Covid-19 symptoms the local authority will not provide the normal transport and therefore parents/carers will be expected to collect or make alternative arrangements to collect their child from school.

If another pupil in your child's class develops symptoms you will be informed only if that pupil receives a positive test result. In the event this happens school will take advice from the local authority Public Health team and the Wellspring Academy trust and you will be contacted directly to discuss the next steps.

Education if your child is forced to isolate

If your child has to stay at home and self-isolate due to being in contact with someone with Covid-19 symptoms, the school will put in a place virtual/home education offer. This will be bespoke based on the needs of the young person and the technology available at home. The learning provided will be linked with the learning happening within the classroom, in order to support transition after the period of self-isolation has finished. The class teacher/TA will aim to have regular contact with your child via Teams or by phone. The school will also keep in regular touch with parent/carers to offer support.

If your child is too unwell to do any learning then please let us know and we will make sure we allow them time to rest and get better.

Staffing and provision

The school will do everything possible to ensure we can meet the needs of all our pupils and provide a continuous education provision. However, if staffing levels are significantly affected by COVID-19, due to staff illness or self-isolation, this may mean we are unable to operate the school safely. In the event we are forced to close school to key stage groups or fully you will be informed as early as possible. Often the quickest way to get messages out to parents/carers is via our text to parents service so it is really important that we have up to date contact numbers.

Visitors

Visitors to school will be kept to a minimum with only essential visits permitted. All visitors will be expected to follow handwashing and social distancing procedures

Thank you to all of our parents/carers for the hard work you have done over recent months to keep learning going for your child at home. We have seen some fantastic home learning and we are incredibly grateful for your ongoing support and communication. We wish you all a lovely summer break and look forward to working together in September