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Dear parents/carers and friends of school

I would like to start by thanking everyone from school and the community for their warm welcome to Cockerham School. It has been a lovely start to the term for me personally and one which I appreciate.

The children have settled back into school well and the sound of the children all back in school is fantastic. We hope that with everyone still being cautious in terms of social distancing and with regular handwashing and sanitising still we can remain 'bubble free.'

Breakfast Club and After School Club

Marie and Demay from Cockerham Kids club have started this week and the children who have attended have enjoyed a lovely breakfast and activity session. This is open to all children in school and is based in the school hall. Please contact Marie or school for details.

Breakfast Club 7:45-8:45am
After School Club 3:30-6.00pm

I invite parents to take up a place especially if you need to drop off your child/ren early in the morning or require after school care. School doors open at 8:45am and staff are not able to monitor children before that time. We have had a few children dropped off too early on the car park and so breakfast club may help support you.

Library van

The library van will be coming on September 23rd Children do need a library card, some of the older children will already be on the library system from borrowing books in the past, both from the van and from other public libraries in the county. For the younger children and those new to the school, cards can be made up with family's approval. You can get a template from your child's class teacher on request.

COVID UPDATE:

From 16 August, the Government has said that people aged under 18 years and 6 months or who are fully vaccinated will no longer be legally required to isolate if they are a close contact of someone with COVID-19. Instead, such people will be advised (but not legally required) to get a PCR test unless they have had a positive PCR test in the previous 90 days. Regardless of age or vaccination status, anyone who develops any of the three main COVID19 symptoms (see below) must get a PCR test as soon as possible and isolate until the result is available. People who get a positive PCR test must continue to isolate as usual.



Some likely scenarios are described below along with our advice:

What should I do if my child develops COVID-19 symptoms?

The main symptoms of COVID-19 are:

- new continuous cough and/or
- fever (temperature of 37.8°C or higher)
- loss of or change in, normal sense of taste or smell (anosmia)

If your child develops any of these symptoms, you must arrange for them to have a PCR test as soon as possible.

A PCR test can be arranged via the NHS UK (www.nhs.uk) website or by contacting NHS 119 via telephone if you do not have internet access.

Your child should self-isolate immediately and they should not attend school. Please contact the school by phone to inform us your child has COVID-19 symptoms and you are awaiting a COVID-19 test.

What should I do if my child has COVID-19 confirmed by PCR test? Anyone with COVID-19 confirmed by PCR test should self-isolate until the latest of:

- 10 days after the onset of their symptoms,
- or**
- 10 days after their test day if they are asymptomatic

Self-isolation means your child should not go to school, attend any out of school activities or visit a friend's house. They should not visit any public places, use public transport or go out to exercise. You should not have visitors into the home except for those providing essential care.

It is really important you let us know if your child has confirmed COVID-19 so we can monitor the number of children with COVID-19 across the school.

What should I do if my child is a contact of someone with COVID-19 confirmed by PCR test?

If your child is aged under 18 years and 6 months and does not have any symptoms of COVID19 (high temperature, new continuous cough, loss of or change in, normal sense of taste or smell) they do not have to self-isolate as a contact of COVID-19. They are advised to have a PCR test unless they have had a positive PCR test in the last 90 days. Children aged 5 and under are not advised to take a PCR test unless the confirmed case is someone in their own household.

What should I do if my child has a positive result on a lateral flow device test?

If your child has a positive result on a lateral flow device test, they should self-isolate immediately and you should arrange a PCR test as soon as possible. Other members of the household do not need to self-isolate whilst you await the PCR test result if they do not have symptoms and are aged under 18 years and 6 months or are fully vaccinated.

What should I do if my child is unwell with signs of an infection but does not have symptoms of COVID-19?

If concerned you should seek advice from your GP or Pharmacist, they will be able to advise you how long your child should stay off school. Current advice does not require that preschool children get a PCR test if they do not have the three main symptoms of COVID-19.

ACCESSING COVID-19 TESTING

Symptomatic testing and testing for close contacts

PCR tests can be booked at any of the DHSC run sites that operate Monday – Sunday 8am – 8pm on the gov.uk website <https://www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test>

Covid-19 Walk-through Testing Site - Lancaster (Nelson Street Car Park)

Covid-19 Drive-through Testing Site - Lancaster (Caton Park & Ride)

PCR tests for home delivery can also be ordered by calling 119.

UNIFORM

Thank you for sending your children looking so smart to school for the beginning of term. They looked great coming into school with PE kits and book bags at the ready. Please can I politely remind you that leggings are not school uniform and should not be worn. Earrings and jewellery should also not be worn.

DATES for school and church:

Date	Activity
Friday 10 th September (p.m.)	Swimming starts for Years 3, 4, 5 & 6
Tuesday 14 th September 7pm	Meeting in church re Sunday school and appeal for helpers
Sunday 19 th September 4pm	'New' children's service in church followed by refreshments.
Thursday 23 rd September	Library van visit
Saturday 25 th September	Grammar school test day
Sunday 26 th September	Harvest Festival in Church, 9.30am Details to follow
Thursday 21 st October	SCHOOL CLOSES
Friday 22 nd October	Teacher Day
Monday 1st November	Bank holiday in lieu of Queen's Platinum Jubilee-School closed
Tuesday 2 nd November	SCHOOL RE-OPENS
Thursday 25 th November	Full Governing Body Meeting

You will see the addition of a day on November 1st which replaces the day in May for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee as this falls in May half term.

Thank you for your continued and valued support

Mrs K Hutchins

Acting Headteacher