



# **Rosemary Works School**

Coronavirus Advice Update March 2021

Dear Parents

We thought it would be helpful at this stage to offer an update to the Government guidance, our school policies and procedures through an FAQ style document. Please take the time to read and if you have any questions, please contact the office who will direct your query to the appropriate person. Please note that we trust that you will share any relevant information with childminders and nannies so everyone is aware.

We are about to start a four step road-map offering a route back to a more normal life.

From Monday 8<sup>th</sup> March 2021, the first restrictions are lifted. This is reopening schools to all children.

The latest Government guidance states:

The main symptoms of coronavirus are:

- a high temperature – this means you feel hot to touch on your chest or back (you do not need to measure your temperature)
- a new, continuous cough – **this means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours (if you usually have a cough, it may be worse than usual)**
- a loss or change to your sense of smell or taste – this means you've noticed you cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal

Most people with coronavirus have at least one of **these** symptoms.

#### **What to do if you have symptoms**

If you have any of the main symptoms of coronavirus:

1. Get a test to check if you have coronavirus as soon as possible.
2. Stay at home and do not have visitors until you get your test result – only leave your home to have a test.

Anyone you live with, and anyone in your support bubble, must also stay at home until you get your result.



### **What if I am late dropping my children off to school?**

If your child arrives late to school, please press the buzzer at the main entrance. Your child will be admitted and given hand sanitiser before going to class. This also applies to children in our Nursery Class setting. **UPDATE – We will not be checking temperatures upon entry.**



### **What do I do about my child changing for PE, Forest School or Karate?**

All classes that would normally change for **PE** in school are being advised to come to school in PE clothes for the whole day. This may mean that for, up to three days per week, children are not in uniform. Under the current circumstances, that's fine and we thank you for your support with this.

The same applies for **Forest School** clothing, but have a spare set of clothes in school should they get wet.

**Karate** is different – children cannot wear their [Gis](#) (karate uniform) all day, so they will need to change in schools. We are asking children to leave their Gis in school on Fridays\* and after the lesson, change back into their clothes and leave their Gis at school for next week. If they need cleaning, children can take them home and ensure they are back on their pegs at least 72 hours before the lesson for quarantining purposes.

*\* Children that practice karate evenings and weekends need to bring their Gis in on Mondays.*



### **What if I want to speak to a member of the Rosemary Works Team?**



We have decided to postpone our parent consultation meetings for this term and hold them at the beginning of the Summer Term. We feel that by doing this, we will be able to provide parents with more information about their children's learning and progress. They will take place remotely in the same way that they did in the Autumn Term. Booking details will follow nearer the time, however, If you have something urgent, please email your teacher in working hours and they will respond within 48 hours, or contact the school office who will pass on the information you provide. You may also be able to meet with your child's class teacher outside after school at a mutually convenient time.

If you wish to speak with Ross or Rob, you will be able to arrange a meeting with them in accordance with our guests in school guidance (see below).

### **What are the procedures for a guest visiting school?**

We are not permitted to welcome guests or specialist teachers into the school at this stage. This will be reviewed for after Easter. Therefore, Languages will be taught by Liberte remotely, Sports with Little Soccer Stars can be taught outside, Computing and Music will not begin straight away. All prospective parents will need to meet remotely.



### **What if I can't drop off and pick up my child due to shielding?**

As long as the teacher and the school office have been informed, you may wish for another person to pick up your child. We are requesting that you make the teacher aware via email and to put forward a code word that is mutually agreed being yourself and the person picking up – this will need to be shared with the teacher. The teacher will then know that the adult picking up is the correct person. This is a safety measure, because we would normally recognise faces and there may be some new faces we have not seen.



### **What will happen at playtimes? Will my child still get fruit?**

The children will be in set bubbles for playtime and this will be staggered across each key stage to allow for minimal “foot traffic” in the corridors. Each group will have a zone on the playground.

Children in KS1/ Early Years will still have fruit, but rather than us having one fruit stop, each classroom will have a fruit stop for the children to receive their fruit from.



### **What will lunchtime look like for my child?**

Lunchtime will have to be staggered to accommodate all of our children and they will all have, roughly a 20-minute window in which to eat. At all other times, they will be outside playing in their designated zones.

### **Can my child wear a face covering in school?**

[PHE](#) (Public Health England) does not recommend using face coverings in school and we will adhere to this guidance. You are welcome to wear face coverings upon arrival, however we will ask that you follow our procedure for mask removal:

- pupils must be instructed not to touch the front of the face covering during use or when removing. Removal should be via the ear loops.
- Pupils must wash their hands/sanitise their hands immediately after removal.
- If disposable, the face covering is to be placed in the lidded bin upon entry.
- If reusable, parents must supply a plastic bag for the face covering to be placed in and taken home.

*In exceptional cases, we can agree that a child can wear a face covering at school but you will need to consult Rob or Ross.*



### **What if I am returning from abroad?**



- You must self-isolate (or quarantine) when you [enter the UK](#) from any foreign country except Ireland, unless you have a valid exemption. Check the [list of people who are exempt from the English border rules](#).
- When you enter UK from abroad (except Ireland), follow the quarantine and additional COVID-19 testing requirements:
  - if you are arriving in England from a country on the [banned travel list](#) you must [quarantine in a hotel](#)
  - if you are arriving in England, travelling from any other foreign country (except Ireland), follow the [quarantine rules for arriving into England](#) different rules apply for arriving into [Scotland](#), [Wales](#) and [Northern Ireland](#)
- if you are arriving in England, and you are not travelling from a country on the banned travel list, you may be able to [pay for a COVID-19 test under the Test to Release scheme](#) to find out if you can reduce your self-isolation period.

### **What do I do if a member of my household or support bubble tests positive?**

If you or a member of your household tests positive, their self-isolation period includes the day their symptoms started (or the day they had the test, if they do not have symptoms) and the next 10 full days.

Anyone they live with will also need to self-isolate at the same time.

They may need to self-isolate for longer if they get symptoms while self-isolating or their symptoms do not go away.

Read more about [how long to self-isolate](#).



### **Any Person Displaying Symptoms of COVID-19**

This will continue to operate in the same way as it did during the Autumn Term and it is vitally important that you all follow the Government guidelines.

*Pupils, staff and other adults must not come into the school if:*

*They have one or more coronavirus (COVID-19) symptoms.*

*A member of their household (including someone in their support bubble or childcare bubble if they have one) has coronavirus (COVID-19) symptoms.*

*They are required to quarantine having recently visited countries outside the Common Travel Area. They have had a positive test.*

*If they subsequently receive a positive test, they must not attend for at least 10 days from the day after:*

*The start of their symptoms.*

*The test date if they did not have any symptoms but have had a positive test (whether this was a Lateral Flow Device (LFD) or Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR) test)*

*If anyone in school develops a new and continuous cough or a high temperature, or has a loss of, or change in, their normal sense of taste or smell (anosmia), we must:*

*Send them home to begin isolation - the isolation period includes the day the symptoms started and the next 10 full days*

*Advise them to follow the guidance for households with possible or confirmed coronavirus (COVID-*

*Advise them to arrange to have a test as soon as possible to see if they have coronavirus (COVID-19)*

We are required to continue to track close proximity contacts of those who may test positive and this may well result in the further closure of classes / bubbles and require some pupils / staff to self-isolate.

There is a useful flow chart for you to follow if your child develops symptoms of COVID-19. You can find a link to the document [HERE](#).

Should there be the need for pupils to self-isolate, we will continue to provide remote learning for them in a similar way that we have done up until now.

Finally, for all the latest Rosemary Works information regarding COVID-19, please visit our dedicated webpage [HERE](#).

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Rob Dell', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Rob Dell