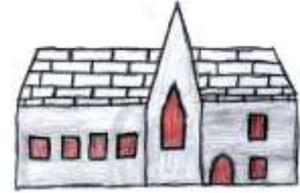




**The Federation of  
North and South Cowton Community &  
Melsonby Methodist Primary Schools**



North and South Cowton Community Primary School  
Main Road  
North Cowton  
Northallerton  
North Yorkshire DL7 0HF  
Telephone: 01325 378240  
Email: [admin@northsouthcowton.n-yorks.sch.uk](mailto:admin@northsouthcowton.n-yorks.sch.uk)  
Web: [www.northsouthcowton.n-yorks.sch.uk](http://www.northsouthcowton.n-yorks.sch.uk)

Melsonby Methodist Primary School  
West Road  
Melsonby  
Richmond  
North Yorkshire DL10 5ND  
Telephone: 01325 718318  
Email: [admin@melsonby.n-yorks.sch.uk](mailto:admin@melsonby.n-yorks.sch.uk)  
Web: [www.melsonby.n-yorks.sch.uk](http://www.melsonby.n-yorks.sch.uk)

Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> January 2022

### **Positive Covid Cases in school**

Dear Parents and Carers,

I am writing to let you know there have been further confirmed cases of COVID-19 within the school community that include both staff and children.

Because of the rising number of cases, we want to ensure that a plan is in place in the event of further staff cases and that you have as much advanced warning of any potential changes or closure.

Whilst we will be doing everything we can to keep the school open, having only a small team of staff means that we may get to a point in which we cannot safely open the school. Our staff are taking daily LFDs each morning before school therefore if further staff test positive and we need to close the school for a number of days, we will communicate this with you as early as possible before school by text/ Facebook and email.

We have consulted with the Public Health team and Governors regarding this decision and would like to assure you that any decision on school closure will be a last resort.

### **Remote Learning**

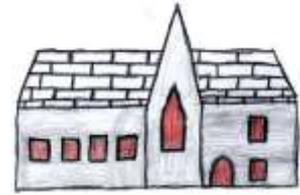
We are also aware that there are children who have tested positive who are unwell and not able to complete learning sent home. In some cases, parents too have tested positive and may be unable to support with this. Please do not feel pressured to complete this learning if you or your child are unwell during this time. The staff in school are continuing to teach in school and send learning for those who request this. Please contact the school office should you need learning sent and we will work together to provide this for you.

### **Testing**

Whilst schools are no longer required to undertake detailed contact tracing for cases of COVID-19 (unless in very exceptional circumstances), following discussion with the North



The Federation of  
North and South Cowton Community &  
Melsonby Methodist Primary Schools



Yorkshire Public Health team we have been advised to recommend that your child undertakes daily lateral flow testing **every morning, before school** for 7 days as it is likely that they have been in close contact with a positive case. If your child tests positive then they should self-isolate for 10 days as per government guidance but they do not need a confirmatory PCR test unless they have symptoms.

They can now end their isolation from Day 6 if they have tested negative on a lateral flow test (LFD) on day 5 & day 6 (tests must be 24 hours apart). If you do not have a negative result on day 5 & 6 you should continue to test until you have two negative tests, or you reach day 10, whichever is soonest.

Anyone who has tested positive on a PCR test in the last 90 days is not required to have a further PCR test unless they develop new symptoms. However, they should continue with regular lateral flow testing. Additional lateral flow tests can be ordered online at <https://www.gov.uk/order-coronavirus-rapid-lateral-flow-tests>, or by calling 119. They can also be collected from many local pharmacies.

PCR tests can be accessed via <https://www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test>. A list of local testing facilities and opening times is available here: <https://www.northyorks.gov.uk/coronavirus-covid-19-testing>.

Test and Trace may be in touch with you in the coming days if your child is directly identified as a close contact by the case, but as a school we will not pass personal contact details on to cases to share with Test and Trace. Children who are close contacts of someone with COVID-19 are no longer required to isolate unless they develop symptoms.

The 3 main symptoms of COVID-19 remain a fever (temperature 37.8OC or higher), a new continuous cough, or a change to/loss of taste or smell. However, other commonly reported symptoms of recent variants include headache, sore throat, tiredness, and cold-like symptoms, so individuals need to be aware of these as well and stay at home and seek further testing if they are in any doubt.

Please don't hesitate to get in touch if you have any questions regarding any of the above.

Yours Sincerely,

Helen Robinson