



# CIPS News

17th September 2021

## UPDATED GUIDANCE FROM DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & PHA

Last Friday, the Department of Health and PHA outlined the new contact tracing arrangements to be implemented if there is a positive case of COVID-19 in a school setting.

Essentially, the responsibility of contact tracing has been removed from schools and the PHA will undertake this task themselves. Schools will no longer need to contact the PHA COVID-19 Schools Team. I have outlined a summary of the new arrangements below:

- Schools are no longer required to respond to every COVID-19 case and identify close contacts
- The PHA will instead undertake a "more targeted approach" to the identification of the closest contacts
- From 10.09.21 the PHA Contact Tracing Service will ask for parents/guardians support in identifying close contacts
- Those identified as close contacts will be contacted by PHA by phone or text
- Parents are encouraged to inform the school of positive cases
- Schools are NO LONGER required to contact PHA COVID-19 schools team
- Schools may be contacted by PHA to assist with the identification of close contacts

It is still important we keep our usual mitigations to reduce the risk of COVID-19 transmission including enhanced cleaning, ventilation, the use of face coverings while in school grounds, temperature checks and the use of consistent groups. I would like to thank you our parents for your support, care and understanding as we once again adapt to new guidelines.

## MEDICAL OR DIETARY CARE PLANS

Does your child have a Medical or Dietary Care Plan? If so, you must give us the most recent copy of this Care Plan. Care Plans should be reviewed annually by a healthcare practitioner. Thank you for keeping us up-to-date.

## Non-Uniform Day

We are holding a non-uniform day on Friday 24th September to raise money for PTA funds. These funds are vital for the school in the current economic climate. The money is used to buy resources for the school as well as pay for things such as pantomime buses. Minimum donation £1 per pupil.

## Half-Term Holiday

Monday 25th October to Friday 29th October  
School reopens Monday 1st November

## Parent Consultations

Wednesday 20th, Thursday 21st & Friday 22nd October

We have decided to carry out face to face meetings. All meetings will be held in the assembly hall with the doors open. Parents will be asked to wait outside until they are called in by the teacher. Masks must be worn and social distancing will be in place.

Please remember that school will close at 12.00pm on both days to facilitate consultations.

## After-School Clubs

All after-school clubs will begin the week beginning 4th October. You will be informed next week if your child has a place at the clubs they requested. There may need to be some changes to the timetable as some clubs were oversubscribed and others didn't have enough interest to make them viable.

## HEALTHY BREAK & SNACKS IN SCHOOL

Help your child get their five a day by including some fruit or vegetables as a snack for their morning break. A portion could be:

1 medium sized piece of fruit, e.g. apple, orange, banana, or pear.

2 small fruits, e.g. kiwi fruits, satsumas or plums.

1 cup of grapes, cherries or berries.

Carrot sticks, cucumber or celery chopped up.