

Frettenham Primary School  
Hainford Primary School  
Horsford Primary School  
Old Catton Junior School  
White Woman Lane School  
St. Faiths' Primary School



Nebula  
where stars are born

Ashley Best-White  
Executive Headteacher

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Dear Parent/Carers

I hope this letter finds you well and that you had a happy summer break. Where did the six weeks go? And hasn't it been lovely (if a little frustrating to be honest!) to see the sunshine back ever since we returned to school?

I would like to begin by welcoming you all to this new academic year. I wish to extend an especially warm welcome to all our new pupils and their families to our schools.

We have been delighted to welcome children back to our schools and so pleased to have been able to begin the term where life in school has been a lot closer to normal. The new guidance has meant that, at present, we have been able to reintroduce a number of aspects to school, which have been missing for over a year. We are so pleased to be able to enjoy some group assemblies, collaborative learning, swimming and so many other things. It has certainly had a positive impact upon the children too and I can honestly say, everyone has settled remarkably well (including the staff!). The children have settled back into their classes and the buzz in the schools, the laughter and the smiley faces tell us how much they have enjoyed returning to school and learning, and playing with their friends across the school.

**Back to learning** and the quality of our curriculum offer ... at the very end of the summer term we had an Ofsted Inspection at Hainford Primary. We are still awaiting their report and will forward to all parents at the school once it has been received. For all parents in our other schools, it will be published by Ofsted and placed on the Hainford School website - please take a look at it if you are interested as it will I'm sure give you valuable information with regards to our schools' approach to the curriculum.

**Our Number One priority is** ...Reading, Reading and a bit More Reading. I hope you all know by now that our main curriculum priority at our schools has been, and always will be reading. We have invested and continue to invest heavily in books and staff training. You can really support us by reading at home with your child, not only their school reading book but (really importantly) their library books, books from home (including audio books) and anything you can get your hands on. It is also important that your children see you "mums and dads" reading for pleasure, which is a great excuse for you picking up a good book!

**Extra-curricular activities** are beginning again. Charlie Charlie One is in all our schools providing a programme for our Year 5 pupils, sports clubs are taking place after school, visits are planned for the year, including residential visits on the horizon for many of our pupils. Inter-school competitions have been planned; multi-skills, cross-country and cricket to mention a few and visitors are back in our schools! Last week the award winning, amazing poet Karl Nova visited and performed at all of our schools. Karl is a Hip Hop artist, author and poet. He is the winner of CLIPPA 2018 for Rhythm and Poetry, (his first published collection) and the Ruth Rendell Award 2020 for outstanding contribution to literacy. The laughter and joy that was heard from children (and staff) was heart-warming.

## Queen's Platinum Jubilee Day

You will have no doubt have heard the announcement made confirming that an additional bank holiday has been agreed on Friday 3rd June 2022 in celebration of the Queen's Platinum Jubilee. The Nebula Federation schools will already be on their summer half-term holiday on this day. The additional one day holiday will therefore be taken on Monday 6th June 2022, meaning that the children will return to school following the half term break on Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> June 2022.

We hope for a much more settled time this year, but of course, we need to be mindful of rising infection rates and the potential for disruption. As you will know, we have reviewed our routines and procedures in light of the latest government guidance for schools. We are maintaining our handwashing procedures, cleaning schedules, and ensuring that the buildings are well ventilated. However, we no longer have bubbles on our sites in line with current government guidance.

As you will be aware from the news and other media, cases of Covid-19 are expected to increase throughout the country during the autumn term. There are some changes for what happens should there be a positive Covid-19 case in school.

Any child or adult that shows any of the three key symptoms (new continuous cough, high temperature or loss or change to taste or smell) should take a PCR test as soon as possible and self-isolate until the test result is received. If the test is positive, the individual must self-isolate for 10 days.

Individuals are not required to self-isolate if they live in the same household as someone with COVID-19, or are a close contact of someone with COVID-19, and any of the following apply:

- they are fully vaccinated
- they are below the age of 18 years and 6 months
- they have taken part in or are currently part of an approved COVID-19 vaccine trial
- they are not able to get vaccinated for medical reasons Staff who do not need to isolate, and children and young people aged under 18 years 6 months who usually attend school, and have been identified as a close contact, should continue to attend school as normal.

**Please note that the government guidance has changed so that schools will no longer be contacting parents if a case is notified to them, as this will now form part of the NHS Test and Trace procedure.** We will not be sending letters home regarding any positive cases within the school unless advised to do so by Norfolk Public Health. We will of course be monitoring the rates of infection and will put additional contingency arrangements in place should Department for Education thresholds be reached by following advice provided to us by Norfolk Public Health.

I have attached a sample letter from Norfolk County Council, which details further information on how we can all work together under the current government guidelines to help to stop the spread of Covid-19 and to help to keep everyone safe, which I hope you will find useful. I have also attached a copy of our Covid Contingency Plan Summary for your information.

Please continue to support us in doing so by following all relevant guidance and advice.

Kindest regards



Ashley Best-White  
Executive Headteacher  
The Nebula Federation

## Letter from Norfolk County Council

### **Letter to parents, carers or guardians - Changes to contact tracing in education and childcare settings**

As you know, the Prime Minister announced on 12 July that Step 4 of the roadmap would go ahead on 19 July.

One of the key changes that will take place from 19 July is that schools and other educational places including all childcare settings will no longer be asked to conduct routine contact tracing. As with positive cases in any other setting, NHS Test and Trace will work with either the positive case – or in the case of children – the parents, carers or guardian of the positive case to identify close contacts.

NHS Test and Trace already manages the contact tracing process for the rest of society – including children who have recorded a positive PCR test – and has expertise in supporting people to identify close contacts.

This letter sets out in more detail below how that process will work and what you need to do if your child tests positive for COVID-19.

#### **Self-isolating and taking a test**

1. If your child has any of the following symptoms,

- 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

they should self-isolate and you should inform the school in the usual way.

You should immediately order a PCR test for them. If the PCR result is negative, they can stop self-isolating (unless instructed to self-isolate for other reasons). If the PCR result is positive, they must self-isolate until 10 days after the onset of symptoms.

Other members of the household should self-isolate where required to do so in line with published guidance <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-stay-at-home-guidance/stay-at-home-guidance-for-households-with-possible-coronavirus-covid-19-infection>

2. If your child (**who is at least 11 years old**) has a positive result from a lateral flow device (LFD) test, they should self-isolate – and you should inform the school in the usual way. You should immediately order a confirmatory PCR test. If the confirmatory test is taken within two days and the result is negative, they can stop self-isolating (unless instructed to self-isolate for other reasons). If the confirmatory PCR test is positive (or is taken more than two days after the LFD), they must continue to self-isolate until 10 days after the LFD test. If you do not get a PCR test within two days they should continue with their 10 day self-isolation.

Other members of the household should self-isolate as required in line with published guidance <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-stay-at-home-guidance/stay-at-home-guidance-for-households-with-possible-coronavirus-covid-19-infection>

3. PCR tests can be booked online through the website <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/testing/> or by calling 119.

4. PCR test results will be recorded with NHS Test and Trace automatically, but we would ask that you also keep us informed.

#### **Contact tracing**

5. If your child gets a positive PCR test result, NHS Test and Trace may contact you, using the details you registered when ordering the PCR test. You and/or your child will be asked a series of specific questions designed to identify who your child has been in close contact with. Being in an education or childcare setting

with someone who has tested positive for COVID-19 will not necessarily mean a person is identified as a close contact.

6. You will be asked to provide the contact details, if you know them, of any of the individuals – or their parents or guardians – who have been identified as close contacts. NHS Test and Trace will then get in touch with these close contacts and provide appropriate instructions or advice (see below).

### **Self-isolation and/or testing of close contacts**

7. From 16 August, if the close contact is under 18, they will not have to self-isolate (in line with the policy for fully vaccinated adults) but will be asked to take a PCR test immediately, other than for very young children (under five years old) identified as non-household contacts, and they will not need to self-isolate while awaiting the results of the test. If the PCR test is positive, they will be required to self-isolate for 10 days from the date of the test. NHS Test and Trace will then get in touch to identify close contacts (see points 5 and 6 above).

Further guidance on guidance for households with possible or confirmed coronavirus (COVID-19) infection is available here <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-stay-at-home-guidance/stay-at-home-guidance-for-households-with-possible-coronavirus-covid-19-infection#exempt>

Further guidance for contacts of people with confirmed coronavirus (COVID-19) infection who do not live with the person is available here <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/guidance-for-contacts-of-people-with-possible-or-confirmed-coronavirus-covid-19-infection-who-do-not-live-with-the-person/guidance-for-contacts-of-people-with-possible-or-confirmed-coronavirus-covid-19-infection-who-do-not-live-with-the-person>

We recognise how difficult the past 18 months have been and the sacrifices that all families, education and childcare settings have had to make. This has been an enormously challenging time for everyone and we would like to take the opportunity to thank you for everything you have done.

We would also thank you in advance for continuing to do the following to help reduce the risk of you and anyone you live with getting ill with COVID-19

- Follow the current guidance on how to stay safe and prevent the spread of COVID-19
- wash your hands with soap and water often – do this for at least 20 seconds
- use hand sanitiser if soap and water are not available
- wash your hands as soon as you get home
- cover your mouth and nose with a tissue or your sleeve (not your hands) when you cough or sneeze
- put used tissues in the bin immediately and wash your hands afterwards.