

Norton & West Chinnock Schools
Learning Together for Excellence
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7th January 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

Re. Reopening of Schools – January 2022

Happy New Year, we hope that you had a restful and enjoyable Christmas break and welcome you back to the new term.

As you will have seen and heard on the news COVID is still very much around especially the new Omicron variant.

We are continuing to employ all of our measures to mitigate against the spread of the virus including high levels of ventilation, careful monitoring the CO2 levels, LFT testing, good hand hygiene and cleaning. As we are heading into the coldest part of the winter, please ensure that your children are dressed for the cold, this may include extra layers including additional tops such as thermals and warm coats and hats to keep warm.

We are aware that as a possible wave of cases hits Somerset then we may struggle with staff absence due to self-isolation. As a result, we are ensuring that we do all we can to keep the classes open and are planning for covering staff if this should occur. However, in the worst case scenario if this proves too difficult and safety is compromised then we may have no option but to close classes.

Similarly if your child needs to self-isolate and they are feeling well then we will continue to set work remotely in line with our [procedures](#).

The **isolation period** for individuals who test positive for COVID-19 has now been **reduced to 7 days** as long as negative LFD tests are done on day 6 and 7 of the self-isolation period.

If children do not have a high temperature, self-isolation can end after the second negative test result meaning individuals can **return to an education setting from day 7**, but please note that the Government are asking that LFD tests are also taken on **days 8, 9 and 10** for education settings.

Online Safety:

With the possibility of some online learning, please see the information on our website on [Online Safety](#). The website contains information and support for families in staying safe online.

Clubs:

We are pleased to be able to continue with a wide variety of clubs for both schools.

Please see the links below:

[West Chinnock Clubs](#)

[Norton Clubs](#)

INSET Day:

We are still to confirm the INSET Day and we are chasing the Phonics trainers for a date. As soon as we have this we will let you know as we are aware that you will need to make arrangements for childcare and work.

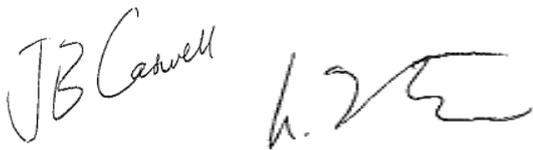
This term:

A curriculum letter for each class will follow this week/early next week. Please also see the [Learning](#) pages of the website for more information on our curriculum including how you can help at home.

We are hoping that local sporting fixtures and tournaments will resume soon and that as things settle, we look to hold interschool events for both sports and other subjects.

Our value for this term is **Aspiration** and we will be speaking with the children this week about how they are going to aim high in their learning for the year ahead.

Thank you for your continued support,

Handwritten signatures of Jamie Caswell and Liz Stiddard. The signature on the left is 'JB Caswell' and the signature on the right is 'L. Stiddard'.

Mr Jamie Caswell and Ms Liz Stiddard

Co-Headteachers

