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5<sup>th</sup> March 2021

Great Wood Parents:

**Checklist / Reminders for Monday:**

| Acorn, 2S, 4H | 1R, 3HoR, 5C | Chestnut, 2H, 4F | 1V, 3HuR, 5F | Year 6     |
|---------------|--------------|------------------|--------------|------------|
| 8:45am        | 8:50am       | 8:55am           | 9:00am       | 8:45 –9:00 |
| 3:05pm        | 3:10pm       | 3:15pm           | 3:20pm       | 3:22pm     |

- Start and end times the same as September
- Plan to arrive at the times above – not early
- Family units to keep 2m distance both on the playground and outside school
- Only one adult per family on premises
- Adults wearing masks, unless medically exempt
- Select meal choices on Parent Pay – Orders given to kitchen 24 hours ahead
- Warm clothing necessary due to increased ventilation
- Check PE kit fits and send it in – or collect it and check it on Monday evening.
- Return loaned iPad or laptop wiped of any photos – label with a name so it can be checked off list.
- Check any children’s medication to be held in school is in-date and returned to school
- Y5 with CAT test books return them please
- Y6 return 11+ loaned study books from last year; 7 sets missing, 1 set urgently needed
- Bus stop is for drop off only, driver not getting out, one way coming from Bare Lane
- Reminder that Sunrise and Sunset Club need 72 hours’ notice for bookings

**Getting Back into Routines**

Children may be anxious as well as excited about returning to school. It can be helpful to know that they will be in the same classrooms with the same children, teacher and schedule as before. The one change in our risk assessment is that guidance includes increased emphasis on ventilation with windows open a crack during lessons to maintain airflow and opened at breaks to bring in fresh air; this will mean an extra layer may be necessary. Children will be in uniform but we won’t be fussing if a pupil has grown out of their school shoes and can’t get any new ones (not a licence to wear the latest trend please) After well over two months and perhaps some later bedtimes it will be a challenge to return to routines – please help by making sure the children get back into healthy sleeping routines so they are ready for a week of school. Morning fruit is provided for infants and juniors may have a healthy snack for morning break.

**Step into Spring**

Teachers noticed a little less engagement with the home learning activities at the beginning of this week. The weather was beautiful so perhaps parents had heard that the Step into Spring Challenge goal has been raised once again – this time to 10,000 miles by the end of term (we proclaim.) Miss Dixon really encourages any family who perhaps haven’t shared their miles walked to do so with a quick email [deputy@greatwood.lancs.sch.uk](mailto:deputy@greatwood.lancs.sch.uk). She will be sharing some of the fabulous photos of signs of spring that have been submitted. After being stuck indoors, it’s great that the weather is improving and we’re trying to give a purpose for the children to do walking.



## Social Media

Another popular activity for some older children has been spending time on social media. Unfortunately, school has been notified of concerns about mean comments being made by Great Wood pupils about Great Wood pupils in more than one year group. Children may be using platforms not designed for children, but really it is how they are used that can cause problems. Please remind children that whatever we share on-line can't be erased – once sent is pressed you have no control and it is available for ever. So, before they send anything, think whether they would be happy if their grandparents or their teacher saw it. We hope that when we return children's relationships won't have been affected by online activity and parents of upper juniors may want to review house restrictions and remind children of the pitfalls.

## Thank You!

Thanks to the efforts of so many, our local Covid case numbers are once again falling (they had been rising again last week.) Families have done such a marvellous job following the guidance and staying home. Children attending school is the first change to restrictions. Although staff are taking lateral flow tests twice a week and some parents may be taking them too, Covid case numbers could easily rise again quickly. At least until the end of this term, the guidance is for family bubbles to stay separate. Therefore, please be aware that physical get togethers, parties, sleep overs with more than one family unit mixing is off the cards and to protect others school will require children to self-isolate for ten days if there is a breach of the guidance. Thank you for your collective co-operation.

## Lateral Flow Tests

I had hoped a more user-friendly letter for parents was being produced. I am sorry not to be able to tell you where you can pick them up – I am trying to find out. The link and a summary are below.

This too will pass.

John Ross and all the Great Wood Family.

[https://www.gov.uk/guidance/rapid-lateral-flow-testing-for-households-and-bubbles-of-school-pupils-and-staff?utm\\_source=1+March+2021+C19&utm\\_medium=Daily+Email+C19&utm\\_campaign=DfE+C19&fbclid=IwAR3TJBWiwovsGClaOI1GpxyTN2-DIQLXN7qnfZ8aAV9THee338IDodMRQ](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/rapid-lateral-flow-testing-for-households-and-bubbles-of-school-pupils-and-staff?utm_source=1+March+2021+C19&utm_medium=Daily+Email+C19&utm_campaign=DfE+C19&fbclid=IwAR3TJBWiwovsGClaOI1GpxyTN2-DIQLXN7qnfZ8aAV9THee338IDodMRQ)

About 1 in 3 people with coronavirus do not have symptoms but can still pass it on to others. Regular testing of people without symptoms is important to help stop the virus spreading and protect your loved ones. As lockdown restrictions gradually ease we all need to play our part to help protect each other.

The following people in England will have access to regular rapid lateral flow testing made available to them as schools reopen:

- secondary school pupils
- [primary and secondary school staff](#)
- households, childcare and support bubbles of primary and secondary-age pupils
- households, childcare and support bubbles of primary and secondary staff

Primary school pupils will not be asked to test at this time.

### How to get a rapid lateral flow test

There are different ways to get a test for school staff, pupils, and members of their households, childcare and support bubbles in England who do not have symptoms of coronavirus.

### Members of households, childcare or support bubbles of school staff and pupils

From 1 March 2021, if you're a member of a household, childcare bubble or support bubble of staff or a pupil you can get a twice-weekly test:

- through your employer if they offer testing to employees
- at a local test site
- by collecting a home test kit from a test site
- by ordering a home test kit online

### Get a test through your employer

Your workplace may offer rapid lateral flow testing to you. Contact your employer to find out more.

### Take a test at a rapid lateral flow test site

You can take a rapid lateral flow test at a local site. Testing at these sites is assisted, which means you will swab yourself under the supervision of a trained operator.

You may need to book an appointment.

[Find your nearest rapid lateral flow test site.](#)

### Collect test kits

You can collect 2 packs of home test kits at a local collection point. Each pack contains 7 tests.

Anyone 18 or over can collect.

Most collection points are open from 1.30pm to 7pm. You can check online if the location is open or busy before you go. You do not need to make an appointment.

Do not visit a collection point outside opening hours, as it may be used to test people with coronavirus symptoms outside these times.

[Find your nearest home test kit collection point.](#)

### Order home test kits online

If you cannot get tested at your workplace, or are unable to go to a test site or collect test kits, you can order a home test kit online.

Do not order online if you can get a test through other methods. This frees up home delivery for those who need it most.

[Order rapid lateral flow home test kits](#)

### What twice-weekly testing involves

You will be asked to:

- take a test twice a week (every 3 or 4 days apart)
- report every result to NHS Test and Trace on the same day you take the test

[Report your test result online](#) or by calling 119.

If anyone tests positive or gets coronavirus symptoms, they should tell the school and:

- self-isolate immediately
- get a PCR test to confirm the result
- follow the [stay at home guidance for households with possible coronavirus infection](#)

A negative result means the test did not find signs of coronavirus. But this does not guarantee you do not have coronavirus, so you should keep following all [coronavirus advice](#) including:

- regular handwashing
- social distancing
- wearing a face covering where recommended