

Information for Staff

Updates to Covid-19 Considerations

Changes Commencing 16th August 2021

The Government is introducing changes to the Covid-19 regulations from Monday 16th August.

Although many of these restrictions had already been eased nationwide on July 19th, at Hove Village we have waited until now to make any changes whilst reviewing data.

Hove Village will be implementing the following changes from 16th August:

- **Removal of bubbles/smaller groups**

DfE Guidance for early years and childcare providers during the COVID-19 pandemic:
"We no longer recommend that it is necessary to keep groups apart as much as possible."

- **We will no longer be tracing close contacts unless advised otherwise by Public Health England.**

DfE Guidance for early years and childcare providers during the COVID-19 pandemic:
'Close contacts will now be identified via NHS Test and Trace and education settings will no longer be expected to undertake contact tracing.'

- **Children under 18 will no longer be required to self-isolate if they are contacted by Test and Trace as a close contact of a positive Covid-19 case.**

DfE Guidance for early years and childcare providers during the COVID-19 pandemic:
"From 16 August 2021, children under the age of 18 will no longer be required to self-isolate if they are contacted by NHS Test and Trace as a close contact of a positive COVID-19 case. Instead, children will be contacted by NHS Test and Trace, informed they have been in close contact with a positive case and advised to take a PCR test. We would encourage all individuals to take a PCR test if advised to do so."

- **From Monday 16 August, people who are double jabbed or aged under 18 will no longer be legally required to self-isolate if they are identified as a close contact of a positive COVID-19 case.**

Gov.UK Coronavirus (Covid-19) Guidance:

"As of Monday, double jabbed individuals and under 18s who are identified as close contacts by NHS Test and Trace will be advised to take a PCR test as soon as possible to check if they have the virus and for variants of concern. People can order a PCR home test online or by calling 119 or going to a test site.

As double jabbed people identified as close contacts are still at risk of being infected, people are advised to consider other precautions such as wearing a face covering in enclosed spaces, and limit contact with other people, especially with anyone who is clinically extremely vulnerable. They will not be required to self-isolate while they wait for the results of the PCR test.

Double vaccinated adults will no longer be required to self-isolate from Monday, as long as they received their final dose of an MHRA-approved vaccine in the UK vaccination programme at least 14 days prior to contact with a positive case.

Anyone who tests positive following the PCR test will still be legally required to self-isolate, irrespective of their vaccination status or age in order to break onwards chains of transmission. Meanwhile anyone who develops COVID-19 symptoms should self-isolate and get a PCR test and remain in isolation until the result comes back."

We ask parents to continue wearing masks during pick-up and drop-off and we will continue social distancing during this time.

We will be reviewing our current Risk Assessment, Parents' Guide and Staff Guide with reference to guidance from the Government, Department for Education, Public Health England, NHS and Brighton and Hove City Council and will update these as necessary.

Should any revised government guidance be issued to us, we will of course update you accordingly.