



Head Teacher: Sarah Edwards

**Springwater School
High Street
Starbeck
Harrogate HG2 7LW**

**Tel: 01423 883214
School Mobile: 07957279719
email: admin@springwater.n-yorks.sch.uk
School Fund Charity Number: 1096974**

25th March 2021

Dear Parents/Carers,

We are nearing the end of a busy and a challenging term and I wanted to write to you to keep you informed of our intentions for after Easter. School attendance hours will return to pre-Covid times, including finishing at 3.15 pm on a Friday afternoon. Attendance is mandatory unless a pupil is shielding. We request that you continue to be vigilant about Corona Virus symptoms and keep your child away from school if they are symptomatic.

Once we return after Easter, we will continue to work in separate pupil classes where contact is minimised – for example large groups will not meet together for lunch, assemblies or forum. We will not gather large groups indoors. Staff will at times move between groups where this is necessary. This will happen where cover for illness is required and to support staff ratios. It will also ensure that we are able to deliver our curriculum requirements. For the first few weeks after Easter we will try to only move staff within a department. After this staff may need to move more widely but we will continue at all times to think about minimising the contacts that they have.

At this time the North Yorkshire Risk Assessment notes that Educational Visits are not permitted. We will continue to stick to this risk assessment and national guidance and only allow pupils to go out in the local area for exercise with one member of staff. However, the Rule of Six may be the next step to return on March 29 and we are seeking guidance on whether that means groups of this size will be able to take exercise together off site, or visit the locality.

Thank you to all the parents of secondary and sixth form pupils who have agreed to test pupils at home. There is still an option to have a home test kit for a pupil who attends here if this is something you would still like to do. Please contact hnewton@springwater.n-york.sch.uk and we will ensure a kit is sent home. The government is also encouraging whole households to be tested at home. Please see below.



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

- secondary school pupils and college students
- [staff of primary and secondary schools, nurseries and colleges](#)
- households, childcare and support bubbles of early years children, nursery children, primary and secondary-age pupils and college students"

This is the link to order test kits for home <https://find-covid-19-rapid-test-sites.maps.test-and-trace.nhs.uk/>

For more information about this please see below.

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/rapid-lateral-flow-testing-for-households-and-bubbles-of-school-pupils-and-staff>

Staff continue to test twice weekly at home and many are now approaching the window for their second vaccination. There has been a high uptake of the vaccine throughout the whole staff team. This term there have been no closures of bubbles, classes or departments, giving us confidence that our risk assessment is working well at this time.

Due to some changes in our staffroom arrangements – whereby we have had to make our meeting room a staffroom we are going to continue to conduct meetings such as EHCP reviews and Child in Need Meetings remotely through TEAMS. This also helps with risk assessment as it minimises contact between professionals, school staff and families – keeping everyone safer at this time.

Thank you very much for your support this term, it has been a difficult and changing picture since January. Your children have done so well to cope with so many changes. Pupils have shown great resilience and where they have faced difficulties or worries have been very well supported by staff at school. The staff team have been wonderfully adaptable and have shown strength and determination. I am hopeful about the next term and wish you and your family a peaceful break this Easter. We look forward to welcoming everyone back on Tuesday April 13 2021. Transport have been informed that we will return to full opening hours from the start of the term.

Best wishes,

Sarah Edwards

Head Teacher

