



Springfield School

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**SEN SPECIALIST
SCHOOLS**

Friday, 26 February 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

We have had a very successful first week back, the children are settling back into their routines and it's a joy to hear the achievements and success in only the first week! We have on average 80% of children back in school currently and we are seeing this rise each day.

I am sure you have seen the Government's announcement this week, that **all pupils will return to school by the 8th March** unless you have a child who is shielding. Once again, we will work with you on supporting your child back into school, but there will be an emphasis from the Local Authority on ensuring all pupils are back into school by this date.

Update on testing

The Government stance on testing for both pupils and staff has been changing on a weekly, sometimes daily basis. Currently we are testing staff twice a week in school and a handful of pupils where they can take a test fully independently. The guidelines changed with testing of pupils and didn't allow staff to give any form of support for pupils when taking a test. This had a huge impact on our ability to test Secondary aged pupils.

From Monday staff will be carrying out their twice weekly testing from home which will be beneficial in identifying cases before staff come into school.

Testing for those pupils who can test themselves independently in school will continue to do so. We have had notification that home testing kits for secondary aged pupils will be available after the 15th March. As we receive updates on home testing for pupils, we will share the information with you on how these will be received. This again will be a voluntary programme.

As always if you child is showing symptoms of COVID they will need to be booked in for a test as soon as the symptoms start the web link is as follows: <https://www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test>

I am conscious that I have been communicating lots of information recently, if you do have any questions at all please do not hesitate to contact me or any of the team at school.

Kind Regards

Lisa

Lisa Hodgkison
Headteacher



