

5th November 2020

Dear Parents/Carers

I am writing to thank you for your support since we fully re-opened in September.

Yesterday afternoon the Department for Education issued [new guidance](#) for schools following the announcement of new [national restrictions](#).

The key points from the guidance for all schools are as follows:

Face coverings

- Face coverings will be mandatory in communal areas of secondary schools and colleges. They will still not be recommended in classrooms.
- In primary schools, the use of face coverings in communal areas will remain at the discretion of individual schools.
- Face coverings will be mandatory for learners in Year 7 and over on dedicated school transport.

Clinically extremely vulnerable staff and pupils

- Both staff and learners who have been identified by their doctor as still considered clinically extremely vulnerable (CEV), will be advised not to come into school. The government guidance on shielding and CEV people has been updated to reflect this position. Schools will be expected to provide remote learning for any learners in this category.
- Learners and staff who live with people who are CEV, but are not CEV themselves, are still expected to come into school. Normal attendance sanctions will be issued for unauthorised absence.

Curricular and extra-curricular activities

- PE, sport, music, dance and drama lessons can continue in line with the current guidance – during school time.
- Schools must only provide team sports listed on the return to recreational team sport framework. Competition between different schools or colleges should not take place.
- Schools are able to work with external coaches, clubs and organisations for curricular activities where they are satisfied that it is safe to do so.
- Before and After-school clubs can only continue if their primary purpose is childcare. This includes Acorns.
- The current series of exam resits should continue.

The majority of these measures have been in place at Wootton Park School since reopening. However, we are introducing the following new measures from 6th November 2020:

- Enrichment clubs will unfortunately be cancelled as of Friday 6th November. We can expect these to resume in January 2021, guidance permitting. GCSE lessons and catch up provision running after school where needed, will continue. Further details will follow.
- Clinically extremely vulnerable (CEV) learners will be advised not to come into school if they have been advised by their doctor that they are still considered to fall into this category. We advise parents/carers of CEV learners to speak to their child's GP or specialist clinician if they have not already done so. Remote learning is in place and can be accessed by the learners affected.

Government guidance in relation to Coronavirus (COVID-19) symptoms.

A huge thank you to all families for working in partnership with the school to follow guidelines in relation to Coronavirus (COVID-19) symptoms.

A reminder of guidance:

The most common symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19) are recent onset of:

- a new continuous cough
- a high temperature
- a loss of, or change in, your normal sense of taste or smell (anosmia)

What to do if your child develops symptoms of COVID-19

Your child **must** stay at home and begin to self-isolate for 10 days from when their symptoms start. Arrange to have a test for COVID-19. The result of the test will determine how long your child must stay at home and self-isolate. A positive test result means your child must complete a 10-day isolation period. If the test is negative, your child can stop self-isolating as long as they are well.

If your child displays any COVID-19 symptoms whilst in school you will be required to collect them (and any siblings that are in your household).

What to do if a member of your household has COVID-19 symptoms?

Your child/ren **must** remain at home and the symptomatic person should arrange for a COVID-19 test. You must follow household isolation guidance: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-stay-at-home-guidance/stay-at-home-guidance-for-households-with-possible-coronavirus-covid-19-infection>

What if your child tests positive for COVID-19

- Contact school as soon as possible by phone or by emailing info@woottonparkschool.org.uk. This email address will be monitored out of school hours too.
- Your child must self-isolate for 10 days from when their symptoms first started. After the 10 days, if they feel better and no longer have symptoms other than a cough or loss of sense of smell or taste- they can return to their normal routine.
- If your child does not have symptoms but has tested positive for COVID-19, your child must stay at home and self-isolate for 10 days from the day the test was taken. If they develop symptoms after their test, restart the 10-day isolation period from the day the symptoms start.
- Household members must stay home for 14 days from the day your child first became ill or when the test was taken.
- If anyone in the household becomes unwell during the 14-day period, they should arrange to have a test to see if they have COVID-19.
- If their test result is positive, they need to follow the same advice for people with COVID-19 symptoms – that is, after 10 days of their symptoms starting, if they feel better and no longer have symptoms other than cough or loss of sense of smell or taste – they can also return to their normal routine. However, if their test result is negative, they need to continue with isolation as part of the household for the full 14 days.

Contacts of a person who has had a positive test result for COVID-19

'Close contacts' of a confirmed case of COVID-19 are identified based on proximity and time spent in close contact to the person that has tested positive. If you are contacted by the school or NHS test and trace to inform you that your child needs to isolate for 14 days, there is no need for the rest of your household to isolate unless someone in the household develops symptoms.

How to stop COVID-19 spreading

There are things you can do to help reduce the risk of you and anyone you live with getting ill with COVID-19.

Do

- Follow new [national restrictions](#) effective from today.
- wash your hands with soap and water often – do this for at least 20 seconds
- use hand sanitiser gel if soap and water are not available
- wash your hands as soon as you get home
- cover your mouth and nose with a tissue or your sleeve (not your hands) when you cough or sneeze
- put used tissues in the bin immediately and wash your hands afterwards
- maintain social distancing
- wear face coverings where required

If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact us by phone or email at info@woottonparkschool.org.uk.

Thank you for your continued support.

Kind regards



Dan Rosser
Principal