

Monday 14 September 2020



Update letter

Dear Parents & Carers

I hope this letter finds you all safe and well.

It has been amazing to welcome all the pupils back and see all their happy smiling faces.

The pandemic continues to present a great deal of challenge for us all and is a great cause of anxiety and concern regards our health & safety.

I would like to offer my re-assurance that we are doing everything we can to ensure that everyone is as safe as they possibly can be during their time at school.

We have a thorough and detailed Risk Assessment in place which is reviewed on an on-going basis. We also have a thorough and detailed outbreak management plan should we have a confirmed case in school.

We have a well-established and effective “bubble” system in place, we are aiming to keep our bubbles as small as possible, and currently each class is their own bubble. Should we have a confirmed case of C19, the smaller the bubble, the less impact.

To keep all class bubbles open, it is vital that they can be staffed with the correct number of staff. It is therefore essential that if your child is unwell with a heavy cold, cough, sickness & diarrhoea etc that they remain at home, until they are better.

I know some of our pupils have pre-existing conditions, e.g. respiratory allergies, anxiety related tummy complaints, sensory stimulated related nausea. If your child is experiencing symptoms of their already documented condition they will be allowed to come to school. If this is something new, then they will need to stay at home until they are not experiencing symptoms. Please discuss this with your child’s class teacher.

Staff numbers are crucial to the bubble remaining open, if a member/members of staff were to become ill and not be able to attend school, it is highly likely that bubble would need to close, as it could not be staffed safely.

I have attached a copy of an excellent Guide for Parent/Carer’s which will hopefully help you. It clarifies what to do, if you or a member of your household suspects they have Covid-19 and lists the symptoms to look for, which are:

A high temperature of 37.8 or above, a new continuous cough, a loss or change to a person’s sense of smell or taste.

I am pleased to say that we have not had any confirmed cases of Covid-19 and we are doing all we can to ensure we all stay safe & well.



Dropping children of at the beginning and collecting at the end of the day

Thank you all for your patience and support as we perfected our morning and afternoon drop-off / collection routine. We have all worked together and got a great system in place, please can I remind parents to drop and collect their children from the first gate. This ensures that we can minimise the amount of contact & mixing and reduce unnecessary congestion.

Contacting School

We have had feedback from several parents that are struggling to get through and have been unable to leave messages. I am pleased to say that we have resolved the issue and there is now the option to leave a message. As you can imagine we are experiencing a huge increase in the number of telephone calls we are receiving. Please be as patient as you can. If it is not urgent, please can I suggest you email your child's class teacher in the first instance and they will call you back at the end of the day. You can also email the members of the school business support team BST@astleypark.lancs.sch.uk and request a call back.

Visiting school

We are asking all our visitors including parents or carers to pre-arrange their visits where possible. All visitors need to enter the building via the main reception. Please wear a face covering, have your temperature taken and sanitise your hands, you will also need to fill in a visitor contact form, to support our test, track, and trace process

Learning from Home

Please contact your child's class teacher if you need any advice guidance or more learning materials and they will be happy to help.

Return of all pupils all week

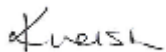
We are excited to be welcoming all pupils back together on Monday 28 September and embarking on our new normal as a whole school. If you are concerned about your child returning full-time on the 28th please get in touch with their class teacher and they can discuss the options and what further support could be offered.

If you have any further questions, please get in touch with your child's class teacher in the first instance, if they are not able to answer your question, they will pass this on and a member of the Senior Leadership Team will be in touch.

Thank you for your ongoing support, it is greatly appreciated.

Kindest regards,





Keep Safe 



Mr Kieran Welsh
Headteacher

COVID-19 (coronavirus) absence: A quick guide for parents / carers



What to do if.....	Action needed	Back to school.....
 <p>.. my child has COVID-19 (coronavirus) symptoms*</p>	<p>Child should not attend school</p> <p>Child should get a test</p> <p>Whole household self-isolates while waiting for test result</p> <p>Inform school immediately about test result</p>	<p>... when child's test comes back negative and they are symptom free for 48 hours</p>
 <p>.. my child tests positive for COVID-19 (coronavirus)</p>	<p>Child should not attend school</p> <p>Child self-isolates for at least 10 days from when symptoms* started (or from day of test if no symptoms)</p> <p>Inform school immediately about test results</p> <p>Whole household self-isolates for 14 days from day when symptoms* started (or from day of test if no symptoms) – <i>even if someone else tests negative during those 14 days</i></p>	<p>...when child feels better, and has been without a fever for at least 48 hours</p> <p>They can return to school after 10 days even if they have a cough or loss of smell / taste. These symptoms can last for several weeks once the infection is gone.</p>
 <p>...somebody in my household has COVID-19 (coronavirus) symptoms*</p>	<p>Child should not attend school</p> <p>Household member with symptoms should get a test</p> <p>Whole household self-isolates while waiting for test result</p> <p>Inform school immediately about test results</p>	<p>...when household member's test is negative, and child does not have COVID-19 symptoms*</p>
 <p>...somebody in my household has tested positive for COVID-19 (coronavirus)</p>	<p>Child should not attend school</p> <p>Whole household self-isolates for 14 days from day when symptoms* started (or from day of test if no symptoms) – <i>even if someone tests negative during those 14 days</i></p>	<p>...when child has completed 14 days of self-isolation, even if they test negative during the 14 days</p>





* Symptoms include at least one of the following:

- A high temperature – above 37.8C
- A new continuous cough
- A loss or change to your sense of smell or taste

See more at:

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/symptoms/>

Test and Trace / When to get a test

What to do if.....	Action needed	Back to school.....
 <p>.. NHS Test and Trace has identified my child as a 'close contact' of somebody with symptoms* or confirmed COVID-19 (coronavirus)</p>	<p>Child should not attend school</p> <p>Child self-isolates for 14 days (as advised by NHS Test and Trace) – even if they test negative during those 14 days</p> <p>Rest of household does not need to self-isolate, unless they are a 'close contact' too</p>	<p>... when the child has completed 14 days of self-isolation, even if they test negative during those 14 days</p>
 <p>.. we / my child has travelled and must self-isolate as part of a period of quarantine</p>	<p>Do not take unauthorized leave in term time</p> <p>Consider quarantine requirements and FCO advice when booking travel</p> <p>Provide information to school as per attendance policy</p> <p>Returning from a destination where quarantine is needed:</p> <p>Child should not attend school</p> <p>Whole household self-isolates for 14 days – even if they test negative during those 14 days should they require a test</p>	<p>...when the quarantine period of 14 days has been completed for the child and they are not displaying symptoms</p>
 <p>...we have received advice from a medical / official source that my child must resume shielding</p>	<p>Child should not attend school</p> <p>Contact school and speak to Pupil Support Team / Attendance Manager</p> <p>Child should shield until you are informed that restrictions are lifted, and shielding is paused again</p>	<p>...when school / other agencies inform you that restrictions have been lifted and your child can return to school again</p>
 <p>...I am not sure who should get a test for COVID-19 (coronavirus)</p>	<p>Only people with symptoms* need to get a test</p> <p>People without symptoms are not advised to get a test, even if they are a 'close contact' of someone who tests positive. If they consequently display symptoms, then they will require a test.</p>	<p>...when conditions (in the 'Back to School' section) as matching your situation, are met</p>

For further information:

<https://centrallancashireccgs.nhs.uk/latest-news/184-nhs-test-and-trace-service-launched>

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/actions-for-schools-during-the-coronavirus-outbreak/guidance-for-full-opening-schools>