

9th November 2020

Dear Parent/Carer,



Student attendance

Following further guidance from the government and the Department for Education, we are contacting you with information to clarify certain aspects.

The most recent guidance states the following...

'...as evidence has shown there is a very low risk of children becoming very unwell from COVID-19, most children originally on the shielded patient list no longer need to be and therefore can still attend school. If they are unsure, parents should contact their child's usual GP or hospital clinician to check whether they should still be considered clinically extremely vulnerable. If a GP or clinician has advised that a child should remain on the shielded patient list, they are advised not to attend school. Children who live with someone who is clinically extremely vulnerable, but aren't themselves, should still attend school.'

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/clinically-extremely-vulnerable-receive-updated-guidance-in-line-with-new-national-restrictions>

Therefore, if your child has been deemed to be clinically extremely vulnerable by their GP, we will, in this case authorise absences until the 2nd December 2020. This would need to be evidenced via correspondence with your GP and provided to the school. For students who are absent from school without the relevant supporting evidence, then a referral to Pupil Welfare will be made who may instigate legal proceedings.

There may be occasions where Aspire Academy will need to act following the confirmation of a positive test within the school community. Should this be the case, you will be contacted directly with further details. Therefore, could we please ask that we have the most recent contact details for you and any other family members you wish the school to have.

May we also take this opportunity to remind you of the safety measures we have in place at Blackpool Aspire Academy in order to keep your child safe. Our detailed procedures can be found on the academy website via videos presented by Mr. Woods. Should you have any further questions regarding these practices, then please do not hesitate to contact the school.

We recognise that this is a trying time and that some people have additional worries, however, we are following the guidance and ensuring the school is as safe as possible.

Warmest regards,

Mr D. Ewart

Deputy Headteacher