**RESPONDING TO COVID 19 – SUPPORT FOR SCHOOLS AND SETTNGS**

Please be mindful of the following to help us limit the spread of Covid 19 in our community

* If you have any concerns or anxieties about what is happening in school, please contact the school in the first instance. The DfE guidance is generalised and you will need to understand how schools have interpreted this in response to their setting
* There are a number of [guidance documents for parents on the DfE](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/what-parents-and-carers-need-to-know-about-early-years-providers-schools-and-colleges-during-the-coronavirus-covid-19-outbreak/what-parents-and-carers-need-to-know-about-early-years-providers-schools-and-colleges-in-the-autumn-term) (Department for Education) website which may help you to understand headline information.
* Please inform your child's school immediately you get a test result, use the contact information on their website for weekend communication this will help your school make plans for pupils who will need to isolate from the Monday morning
* Parents should be aware that schools cannot share the personal details of confirmed cases within the school community
* If your child is sent home to isolate from school this also means they have to isolate from all other activities, events, occasions
* All children with confirmed Covid 19 must not return to school; failure to self-isolate in line with national guidance can lead to a fine of £1000 being imposed
* If you child is entitled to FSM and is required to isolate you will be provided with a food parcel from the school kitchen
* Please be a role model for your children in terms of keeping socially distanced from others when collecting/dropping off your child
* Be prepared to have to collect your child from school during each school day as the requirement to isolate can occur at any time; have a back-up plan if you will be in work
* As a family you need to be prepared for a child to learn at home. They may need access to equipment, for example sensory items, pens, paper and ICT equipment. All parents will need to access their email in order to be kept informed about home learning.
* In the event of pupils being required to self-isolate, parents are responsible for securing the safe care of their children. Please consider the plans you have to ensure there is an adult at home during the day in this event as there will be limited notification
* If your child travels on a school bus, and is able, please encourage them to wear a face mask if they are aged over 11 to reduce the risk of transmission.
* It is widely recognised that children in a specialist setting cannot socially distance from their peers or from staff. Specialist schools are trying to reduce contact between bubbles secure safe distancing through, reduced contact between groups, staggered starts and managed break times.
* It is important that young people are supported to try where possible to follow social distancing guidance when out of school and do not congregate in groups
* Check school communication systems for example text, website, Facebook, Twitter for the most up to date information
* Consider the impact of possible quarantine on your child's attendance before booking overseas travel.