



15th December 2020

Important - COVID and Contacting School over Christmas

Dear Parents & Carers,

Please find below some important information regarding Covid-19 communications over the Christmas holidays.

Public Health England have now informed us that we are to be 'on call' up to and including Christmas Eve and so you could hear from us up to that time regarding self-isolating. However, I would hope that any test results from symptoms on Sunday 20th (the latest day that could affect school bubbles) would be back well before then. To aid this, please book a test as soon as possible if your child develops symptoms of coronavirus. Please report all positive cases of coronavirus to us at school, including at the beginning of the Christmas holidays (details below). Please do this by emailing covid@dsatparkland.org

- Symptoms that develop between now and the end of term, Friday 18th December, which result in a positive case would result in self-isolation. If there was a positive case during this time, you would be contacted by school - children and staff would be asked to self-isolate for 10 days.
- Symptoms that develop on Saturday 19th or Sunday 20th December which result in a positive case would result in self-isolation based on contact on the 17th or 18th. If there was a positive case during this time, you would be contacted by school - children and staff would be asked to self-isolate for 10 days. Please remember that test results could take a while to be returned.
- Symptoms that develop from Monday 21st December onwards would not impact on children or staff who have been in school.

For contact tracing, we will require the following information to be provided within the email:

1. Date of positive test
2. Date symptoms started and nature of the symptoms

- Where there is a positive test and your child is deemed to be a contact, we will send an email and text message to inform you as soon as possible so that your child can observe the isolation rules.
- It has been recently announced that the self-isolation period for people in contact with someone who has tested positive for Covid-19 has been reduced from 14 days to 10 days. We have now received advice from the Department for Education confirming this change and this will apply to all contact tracing.
- Government travel advice for tier 3 areas (currently including all of Leicester and Leicestershire) is to avoid travelling outside your area and reduce the number of journeys you make wherever possible (subject to the Christmas exemption period). However, if you are travelling outside of the UK over the holiday period you must self-isolate for 10 days. The only exempt countries are within travel corridors, see <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/coronavirus-covid-19-travel-corridors>
- Please keep in mind at the beginning of the new term that the 10 day period for self-isolation applies if your child has a positive test, if anyone in the household is going for a test, or if they or anyone in your household has suspected coronavirus symptoms. In such cases please do not send your child to school and please inform school in the usual way.

Please be aware that after Christmas Eve, emails will not be monitored until Monday 4th January. However, please continue to send information about positive cases to covid@dsatparkland.org throughout the holidays as it will have implications for pupil absence when we return to school on the 5th of January 2021.

Best wishes to you all for a safe and peaceful Christmas holiday.

Yours sincerely



Mrs J Andrews
Headteacher