

11<sup>th</sup> September 2020

Dear Families

It has been wonderful to get everyone back in school this week for the first time in nearly 6 months. I must start this letter with a huge thank you to you all for your unwavering support in getting our students safely back to school. This situation is not easy for any of us but you have unreservedly supported time changes, rule changes and huge routine changes, some of which I know have added challenges to your days! This support does not go unnoticed or unappreciated by myself and the wider school community.

Given we have had all the students in since Wednesday can I just share a few observations which would help make things run even more smoothly:

### **Arrival times**

I know staggered starts are difficult, that is why we have offered our wrap around care for siblings with different start and finish times.

I do need to urge you to ensure your child is not arriving on Padiham Road or around school too early as we cannot let children in before their start time. We have had some reports from the community of children hanging around streets for up to an hour before school. We will ring families as we get names.

Please do contact your child's Pastoral Leader if you need support with this.

### **Food and Drink**

Can I remind families that students can only buy any drinks and food at their lunchtime. We are providing water and snacks for them in class break but it is strongly recommended students bring a filled water bottle to school to drink in class. Please remember that our water fountains are currently switched off for health and safety reasons.

Also please remember we are only offering a very limited food selection. Many students are choosing to bring a packed lunch and their own snack for break, this is absolutely fine. Please just note fizzy drinks and sweets will not be permitted.

### **Masks**

The wearing of masks around school has been generally excellent. However we have been made aware that some young people are not wearing them on buses or around the bus station. This is making staff at the bus station and other passengers very uncomfortable. PLEASE reinforce this message with your child if they use the bus.

It has been lovely to see how happy and enthusiastic many students are about returning to school. There has been some great work going on in lessons, with a really positive start made. Over the next couple of weeks we will start to share many more student successes and congratulations with you, to share this great work.

Finally I need to touch on what will happen once we have a positive case of coronavirus confirmed in school and what you should do if your child or anyone in your household displays coronavirus symptoms.

The information below attempts to combine the health guidance alongside our processes for informing us of a suspected or confirmed case.

Can I urge you to read the guidance carefully and contact us with any questions. A really simple way to summarise first steps:

- Do not send any of your children to school if they, or anyone in the house, have Covid 19 symptoms.
- You only get the person with symptoms tested. The results of the test then determine what happens next.
- Let us know as soon as possible about a suspected or confirmed case of anyone in the household. You can even do this at a weekend by emailing [Covid19@shuttleworth.lancs.sch.uk](mailto:Covid19@shuttleworth.lancs.sch.uk). We will then work with you and Public Health England to identify contacts and support you with next steps.
- If anyone in your household is told to isolate for 14 days due to contact with a coronavirus case; they must complete a full 14 days. You cannot shorten this time by going for a test, even if the result is negative.

### **What to do if your child develops symptoms of COVID 19**

If your child develops symptoms of COVID-19, they should remain at home for at least 10 days from the date when their symptoms appeared as advised in <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-stay-at-home-guidance>.

You should inform school that they are self-isolating and arrange for testing for your child via <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/coronavirus-covid-19-getting-tested> or 111.nhs.uk or primary care.

All other household members, including siblings who remain well must stay at home and not leave the house for 14 days.

The 14-day period starts from the day when the first person in the house became ill.

Household members should not go to work, school or public areas and exercise should be taken within the home.

Household members staying at home for 14 days will greatly reduce the overall amount of infection the household could pass on to others in the community.

If you are able, move any vulnerable individuals (such as the elderly and those with underlying health conditions) out of your home, to stay with friends or family for the duration of the home isolation period.

Should any adults in the household develop symptoms please follow the same process as above and children should remain at home until you have a negative test result or 14 days have passed.

## Symptoms of COVID 19

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

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

**For most people, coronavirus (COVID-19) will be a mild illness.**

If your child or anyone in the household does develop symptoms, you can seek advice from NHS 111 at <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/check-if-you-have-coronavirus-symptoms/> or by phoning 111.

## 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

- 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

## Further Information

Further information is available at <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/>

Have a lovely weekend and stay safe.

Yours sincerely



Mrs R England  
Headteacher