

### **Government update**

Latest guidance from the government can be found here.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/government-sets-out-next-steps-for-living-with-covid>

### **Headlines for schools and Early Year settings**

- ⇒ Symptomatic and asymptomatic testing (PCR and LFT) will cease for the majority of the population, with the exception of a number of settings identified in the press release.
- ⇒ People with respiratory symptoms (including COVID-19 symptoms) should stay at home, avoid contact with others and return to normal activities when well enough and don't have a temperature. For schools and early years settings this means that children and young people who are unwell and have a high temperature should stay at home and avoid contact with other people. They can go back to school, when they no longer have a high temperature, and they are well enough to attend.
- ⇒ For people testing positive for COVID-19 (some people will still have LFT kits available), they should stay at home for 5 days (remembering day 0 is day of onset of symptoms/ day of test if no symptoms), avoid contact with others. They should then return to normal activities if well enough and don't have a temperature.
- ⇒ For children testing positive for COVID-19 (under 18 years old), they should stay at home for 3 days and avoid contact with others. They should then return to school and normal activities only if well enough and don't have a temperature.

### **The mainstay of COVID-19 advice for the general public will remain as**

- ⇒ wear a mask/face covering in enclosed spaces
- ⇒ keep indoor spaces ventilated
- ⇒ stay away from others if you have any symptoms of a respiratory illness, including Covid
- ⇒ vaccination remains the best way to protect us all from severe disease and hospitalisation due to Covid infection

Following Warwickshire local advice we will:

- ⇒ Inform parents if we suspect a case of Covid, using the standard letters for close contacts.
- ⇒ We will continue with maintaining:-
  - ⇒ Good ventilation,
  - ⇒ Reduced mixing,
  - ⇒ Strong cleaning regime

**Summer term at EPS**

Currently the national and local number of cases is high. One in sixteen people have Covid this averages two children per class. There is little evidence to indicate that people are still testing consistently. This is partly because LFT's are hard to access but partly because there is a general feeling of weariness and people have reduced their own safety measures.

In school, we have to consider our own unique situation. We know that whilst children generally show minimal symptoms and are well, adults can be hit hard by Covid.

This is our experience at Eastlands over the spring term. Naturally, high staff absence will result in part or full closure of school. Supply staff are difficult to get as many are working on the National Tutoring programme or choosing not to come into a school with high cases. Further to this, there is still a need to consider vulnerable members for our community

We know from previous years that Covid risk of spread reduces in the summer months. However there is a strong likelihood that next winter some mitigation will need to be put in place again. Equally, if there were to be an outbreak in school.

We are keeping the well established and understood routines of walking around the site in place.

Before school—

- ⇒ School staff are on duty from 8.45—8.50
- ⇒ All children should be in class for register and dinner order by 8.55 and start learning.
- ⇒ Year 3, 4, 5 & 6 to walk into school independently from the Lansdown Place where a member of staff is standing.
- ⇒ Year 2 may also want to start doing this as part of becoming Year 3 ready.
- ⇒ Year 1 walk from the school gates to their classroom
- ⇒ Reception & Nursery must be escorted, by an adult, to their class
- ⇒ We will continue to advise on use of face coverings and other measures in outbreak scenarios.
- ⇒ *Polite request*
  - ⇒ Please do not bring dogs onto school site or near the school gate.

## COVID Update — April 2022

Symptoms of COVID-19, flu and common respiratory infections include:

- ⇒ continuous cough
- ⇒ high temperature, fever or chills
- ⇒ loss of, or change in, your normal sense of taste or smell
- ⇒ shortness of breath
- ⇒ unexplained tiredness, lack of energy
- ⇒ muscle aches or pains that are not due to exercise
- ⇒ not wanting to eat or not feeling hungry
- ⇒ headache that is unusual or longer lasting than usual
- ⇒ sore throat, stuffy or runny nose
- ⇒ diarrhoea, feeling sick or being sick

The guidance specifically states that “Children and young people with mild symptoms such as a runny nose, sore throat, or slight cough, who are otherwise well, can continue to attend their education setting.

Children and young people who are unwell and have a high temperature should stay at home and avoid contact with other people, where they can. They can go back to school, , and resume normal activities when they no longer have a high temperature and they are well enough to attend.”

If your child has tested positive for COVID-19, they should not return to school for 3 clear days after the day their symptoms started (or the day they tested if they have no symptoms). They can return to school on day 4 (remembering day 0 is day of onset of symptoms/day of test if no symptoms) but only if they are well enough and do not have a temperature.

Please continue to notify us if your child receives a positive test result or if they are displaying any of the symptoms listed above – particularly a high temperature. You can call the school office or email [admin2415@welearn365.com](mailto:admin2415@welearn365.com).

We thank you for all your support to date and, moving forward, ask that you remain vigilant and support us in keeping your child at home if they are unwell to reduce the risk of passing infection on to others.

If you are ever unsure, do not hesitate to get in touch and we will support where we can as we all get used to these new guidelines.