



Springfield School

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**SEN SPECIALIST
SCHOOLS**

Monday, 03 January 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

Happy New Year to you! I hope you have all managed to have an enjoyable Christmas break. As we approach a new year, we know that 2022 won't be without its challenges, but as always with the support of our Springfield Community we will work through the challenges as they arise!

We already have a number of staff who will be in isolation this week following positive COVID tests over the last few days. We will aim to minimise disruption as far as we possibly can, to ensure safe and adequate staffing is in place. It is unlikely swimming or rebound therapy will be able to take place at least in this first week. We know how much our pupils enjoy these extra-curricular activities, but our aim is to keep classes open and children in school as much as we can.

There may be occasions we may have to close classes due to unsafe staffing ratios; we will aim to avoid this as much as possible but it may become reality over the next few weeks. If this did occur, we would aim to switch to remote learning.

School COVID Measures

We will continue with all of the safety measures we had in place prior to the Christmas break which are as follows:

We will continue to:

- Wear face coverings in communal areas
- Wear face coverings for transport duties and ensure transport staff wear face coverings on Springfield premises
- Have an enhanced cleaning programme
- Remain as far as possible within our class groups and playground areas
- To test twice weekly in line with Government advice
- Encourage parents to test pupils at home where possible

We will be restricting visitors to school to those that directly impact on a pupils needs either educationally or in respect of their personal care.

COVID Protocols

We will contact you directly, to ask you to take your child for a PCR test if we consider your child to be a close contact of a positive case. If you have not been contacted, please send your child into school as usual. I will add a weekly update of COVID cases to the newsletter as I have done in previous weeks.



What should I do if my child has symptoms of COVID?

- You should notify school and take your child for a PCR test as soon as possible
- Your child should stay off school until the results have been received
- If the result is negative your child can return to school
- If the result is positive your child will need to isolate for 10 days from the onset of symptoms
- If your child has siblings at Springfield, they should also go for a PCR remaining off until the results are received.

What should I do if a member of my household tests positive?

- You should notify school and take your child for a PCR test as soon as possible
- Your child should stay off school until the results have been received
- If the result is negative your child can return to school
- If the result is positive your child will need to isolate for 10 days from the onset of symptoms

What will happen if a member of staff or pupil tests positive in my child's class?

- Although it is now not schools responsibility to track and trace we will notify all close contacts of a positive case.
- If your child has been a close contact of a positive case, we will ask you to take your child for a PCR test
- We ask that your child remains off school until the results of that test have been received
- If the test is negative, providing there have been no further cases within the class the child can return to school.

What do I do if my child is regularly testing and has a positive LFT?

- You should notify school and take your child for a PCR test as soon as possible
- Your child should stay off school until the results have been received
- If the result is negative your child can return to school
- If the result is positive your child will need to isolate for 10 days from the onset of symptoms

Positive Cases

We are aware now of further isolation guidance published prior to Christmas however for pupils we have been advised of the following for positive cases:

Pupils are unlikely to be able to follow the advice in the national guidance which states that they should "limit close contact with other people outside your household, especially in crowded, enclosed or poorly ventilated spaces". Therefore, advice from Cheshire East Public Health is that they should not come into school and should follow the stay at home guidance for the full 10-day period.

Household Positive Contacts for pupils

From October 2021 Cheshire East Public Health Directors provided the following advice to schools and settings as a result of the high number of cases in the 0-19 year olds.

Children who are household contacts of positive cases are advised not to attend the setting for 5 days from the first symptom or positive case. During this time they should have a PCR test. If this is negative they can return after 5 days. Pupils in Y7 and above (where appropriate) should take an LFT each day until the isolations in the household have ended. Primary pupils can also undertake daily LFT if their parent/carers feel that this is appropriate for their child.

On a positive note, we are looking forward to welcoming all the children back to school tomorrow. Please do not hesitate to get in contact if you have any questions.

Kind Regards

L Hodgkinson

Lisa Hodgkinson
Headteacher