



9th July 2021

Dear Parents and Carers

Positive Cases of Coronavirus at Chew Valley School Letter to all Parents and Carers

We have in the last twenty four hours had a number of confirmed cases of coronavirus within our community. We have contacted the parents and carers of the students who have been deemed to have been in close contact and asked them to isolate for the mandatory ten days.

Many local primary and secondary schools have reported an increase in the number of cases which is no doubt linked to the delta variant which has been mentioned in the national news and as a result a good number of students across the country have been asked to spend time at home. I am aware of at least one school in the local vicinity that has needed to send all students home and has everyone working on remoting learning.

At Chew Valley we are putting back in place provision for students working away from school which as before when this situation occurred will involve a blend of activities. Work is detailed by looking at the school website front page and clicking the Remote Learning and Risk Assessment box. <https://www.chewvalleyschool.co.uk/>.

Can I remind everyone of the importance of home testing twice a week and reporting positive cases to school as soon as possible. It is important that everyone tests on Sunday evening before returning to school on Monday. I would also like you to be aware that at short notice we may need to contact you for your child to begin a period of ten days isolation.

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. Anyone with symptoms will be eligible for testing and this can be arranged via <https://www.nhs.uk/ask-for-a-coronavirus-test> or by calling 119.

People who do not have symptoms should not request a test unless this has been specifically requested by Public Health England or the local authority.

All other household members who remain well must stay at home and not leave the house for 10 days. This includes anyone in your 'Support Bubble'. The 10-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. If you require help with buying groceries, other shopping or picking up medication, or walking a dog, you should ask friends or family. Alternatively, you can order your shopping online and medication by phone or online.

Household members staying at home for 10 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.

Please see the link to the PHE 'Stay at Home' Guidance:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-stay-at-home-guidance/stay-at-home-guidance-for-households-with-possible-coronavirus-covid-19-infection>

Symptoms of COVID 19

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

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

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

If your child does develop symptoms, you can seek advice from the nhs.uk website at <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/check-if-you-have-coronavirus-symptoms/>. If you are concerned about your child's symptoms, or they are worsening you can seek advice from NHS 111 at <https://111.nhs.uk/> 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.

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/>

With best wishes and thank you in advance for your support at this time. I am very aware that the need for students to isolate at short notice puts families into difficult situations. At all times the school is following national guidance and talking with Public Health England.

Yours sincerely



Gareth Beynon
Headteacher