

Cheswardine Primary and Nursery School

Glebe Close, Cheswardine, Market Drayton, Shropshire, TF9 2RU

E-mail: admin@cheswardine.shropshire.sch.uk

Web: www.cheswardineschool.org.uk

Telephone/fax: (01630) 661233

Executive Headteacher: Mrs R Williams



Reach for the Stars

29.9.21

Dear Parents/Carers,

Shropshire Council Local COVID-19 Updated Guidance

Due to the widespread community transmission across the county resulting in a rising number of outbreaks, particularly in school settings, it has been recommended by Shropshire Council that the following proportionate measures are undertaken by schools.

PCR testing

Household Contacts

All household contacts of a confirmed case (PCR positive) should undertake a PCR test, with or without symptoms, and remain home until a negative PCR is returned. This means that pupils who have a household contact who is a confirmed case (PCR positive) should be recommended to take a PCR test and **not attend school** while awaiting the result. If the PCR result is negative, then pupils should be recommended to have a **further PCR test after 4 or 5 days as a precaution**. They can continue to attend the setting when waiting on the second PCR result.

Close Contacts

All close contacts of confirmed cases (PCR positive) are also recommended to take a PCR test but unless they have any of the 3 main symptoms of COVID-19 or any of the precautionary symptoms, they can continue to attend the setting when waiting on results of the PCR test.

Symptoms (even minor symptoms)

Anyone with the 3 main symptoms or the precautionary symptoms * (even if they are not a close contact of a confirmed case) are recommended to get a PCR test and **only return to school after a negative result**. They should also consider contacting 111 for medical advice if required because these symptoms are not unique to COVID-19.

*With cases still high in Shropshire, it is vitally important to get a PCR test if you have **any symptoms of COVID-19, even if they are mild**.

Symptoms include:

- Fever or chills
- Cough
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing



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- Fatigue
- Muscle or body aches
- Headache
- New loss of taste or smell
- Sore throat
- Congestion or runny nose
- Nausea or vomiting
- Diarrhoea

It may be required that **if we have a future outbreak (5 cases or more)**, additional measures will need to be put in place. These could include:

- Revised arrangements for large school gatherings such as assemblies, open evenings, residential school trips, scheduled sports events against other schools
- Bubbles/zoning to reduce mixing
- Reduction of staff movement between classes
- Face coverings for staff in communal areas.

If you have any questions about the above information, please do get in touch. Please note we are currently reviewing whether our open afternoon and harvest festival can take place but we will let you know as soon as a decision is agreed.

Yours sincerely,

REWilliams

Rachael Williams (Executive Headteacher)



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