

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

What is the revised plan for March 8th?

With infection and hospital admission rates remaining high, restrictions in school will continue as planned for when Greater Manchester (the wider county that Stockport sits in) went into Tier 3 restrictions. This shorter document communicates important information from our most recent risk assessment. It is important that all parents and carers read and understand it.

What is the school's policy on face coverings?

With higher infection rates, our policy and expectations on face coverings has changed over time. Currently our practice is:

- All adults on site must wear a face covering. This includes the school grounds which become congested at times. In school, adults remove these for eating and drinking and for some teaching where a 2m distance and good ventilation is maintained.
- Face coverings **will not** be worn by teaching staff in classrooms
- Face coverings **will** be worn by all mid-day staff
- We are providing FFP2 face coverings and advise all staff to use a face covering of this standard as these offer additional protection.
- Staff working directly alongside children, or for purposes of intimate care, will wear a face shield to reduce risk of infection via droplets through the eyes.
- There are no plans to have a policy requiring children to wear a face covering.

How do teaching staff maintain distance?

- It is accepted that the youngest children can't distance well enough. Since 4th January 2021 we have stressed the importance of maintaining distance where possible from children. We appreciate that working with younger children makes this less achievable but we continue to make our best endeavours i.e. talking side on or from behind with children rather than face to face and, where working one-to-one, wearing a face shield to reduce risk of infection through the eyes.
- We are encouraging games that can be played without physical contact and are keeping children as distanced as possible in class. Older children are more able to understand risk so expectations for them are higher.
- There is a *teacher only* zone at the front of KS2 classrooms and in the outdoor collection zones which parents / carers must not enter.
- Staff maintain distance from each other in school by using separate Key Stage staff rooms.
- Staff provide online learning working from home to minimise staff in school.

Is school a safe place for children to be in?

- Schools closed for the second time on 4th January 2021 because of the public health risk from the increase in the pandemic and to prevent the NHS being overwhelmed; not because they were 'unsafe'. The highest risk of contracting the virus is from within the home and in peer groups which is why we are keeping the phase bubbles intact upon our return to school.
- Ongoing risk assessments have been reviewed regularly since March 2020, which mean schools are as safe as they can be within the context of their own communities. Schools mirror the rates in the community. Schools were closed to most children in order that the community rate can come down to a manageable level for the NHS. Rates in Stockport remain high and people are advised if they have other symptoms to the three main coronavirus symptoms (persistent cough, temperature, loss of taste and/or smell) they should seek a test.
- The government have assessed that schools are safe enough for all schools to reopen. In our risk assessment, for Cheadle Heath Primary School to be safe, children, families and staff, the whole school community must play their part and follow the guidance we have set.
- All school staff are carrying of LFT tests twice weekly to ensure that no asymptomatic cases go undetected and therefore limit the spread of the virus to the rest of the school community.

How will track and trace operate over school holidays?

- We track and trace pupils over the weekend and upto 48 hours at the start of each holiday. If your child develops symptoms within this time and then tests positive for coronavirus within 48 hours of being in school you must inform the school by email covid@cheadleheath-pri.stockport.sch.uk. The email will be checked daily and any close contacts will be tracked, traced, informed and told to self isolate.
- If your child or someone in your household tests positive after 48 hours since they were in school you do not need to inform us.

If my child has to self isolate, what remote or online learning will be provided?

- With mirroring learning at home with that in school this won't be a problem for those having to self isolate.
- Where a whole bubble closes, we will revert to our remote learning policy and provide learning at home and for those children self isolating. You can read our policy here.
- Where an individual pupil is isolating daily class work will be placed on Google Classroom as in Lockdown 3.