



Shipley C E Primary School
School Lane, Shipley,
Horsham, West Sussex, RH13 8PL

Friendship, Faith, Future



DIOCESE OF CHICHESTER
Bishop's Commendation
2014

Headteacher:
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Dear Parents

I am writing to inform you of some important COVID updates.

Firstly, a huge thank you to staff, parents and families for working together to keep our community safe. It continues to be a monumental effort and we are acutely aware that the pandemic is far from over so we thank you for your continued support.

The government have announced that the isolation period is now reduced to 10 days. Restrictions are eased between 23rd and 27th December and this, experts say, will increase infection rates in January. Currently, cases in the Horsham area are still below national averages but are rising steadily. This means we have to increase our efforts to socially distance and limit the number of contacts we all have.

These continue to be the symptoms to stay alert for:

- High temperature or fever
- New and continuous cough
- A loss or change to taste and smell

If symptoms are experienced, book a test as soon as you can. The whole household must then isolate, including siblings, for 10 days or until a negative test is returned. Any test results must be shared with the school before pupils will be allowed to return.

Contact Tracing during the holidays

The DfE have asked school leaders to act as contact tracers for the first 6 days of the December holiday, finishing on 23rd December. If you have a positive test result, email the school immediately on office@shipley.w-sussex.sch.uk with COVID 19 in the subject bar. This will be responded to and we will analyse which other pupils or staff have been in close contact. We will then contact them by email to inform them and ask them to isolate for 10 days. I am mindful that this could impact on any plans to see family during the holidays but it is important to keep our community safe. Even after 23rd December, please inform us of any positive test results.

If you have had any recent changes to contact details, please let us know.

DfE advice – 8 December 2020.

- *For the first 6 days after teaching ends, if a pupil or staff member tests positive for coronavirus (COVID 19), having developed symptoms within 48 hours of being in school, the school is asked to assist in identifying close contacts and advising self-isolation, as the individual may have been infectious whilst in school.*



Revised school timings

From **Tuesday 5th January**, drop off and pick up times will be back to our original times.

Morning – a drop off ‘window’ for all pupils between 8.40 and 8.50am in the main car park

Afternoon collection – 3.05pm for all pupils.

With clubs starting after school, it has eased the number of people collecting at the same time. Could we please ask you to be vigilant and cautious on Thursdays and Fridays when there are no after school clubs. If the car park is busy, please wait safely and we will look after your children until you can get there. When you have collected your children, please clear the area promptly.

Oaks class only – important change

Pupils in Oaks class who have no siblings in other classes, (13 families in total) will now use the main office entrance for morning drop off and afternoon collection. The gate will be open at 3pm just for those parents to wait near the shelter. However, all after school clubs will be collected from the car park gate.

The remaining 8 families in Oaks with older siblings will continue to use the car park entrance as usual.

Contractors on site

For the first 2 weeks of term we have contractors on site installing our new multi-purpose track on the field. Towards the end of the second week, it is likely that we have to put in new procedures for one or two days. Please bear with us during that period.

Water bottles

We recently prevented some children sharing drinks and cups at school because they had forgotten their water bottle. Pupils **MUST** bring their own water bottle to school. If pupils arrive without their bottle, we will have to contact you to bring it in for them.

Frequently Asked Questions

Q My child has a cold and has a slightly raised temperature. Can I send their sibling, with no symptoms, into school?

A. No. The whole family must isolate for 10 days or until there is a negative test result.

Q. What do I do if my child tests positive at the weekend or during the holidays?

A. E mail the school immediately on office@shingley.w-sussex.sch.uk with COVID 19 in the subject bar. The email will alert us quickly so we can establish any close contacts and instruct them to isolate.

Finally, I would like to say that your children have been brilliant this term. They have coped well with all the changes and restrictions. They have worked hard, had some fun and been positive throughout and we are very proud of them.

A reminder that pupils get an extra day at home on Monday 4th January as the school is closed for an INSET day.

Yours sincerely

Jen Harvey

