

## Sickness and COVID-19 Protocols

In order for us to implement safe return to school, we will need parents to follow, without exception, the guidance on sickness protocols. This is vital for the safety and protection of all children and staff. Testing is available for all children, their households and all staff. **Families have been incredibly diligent and responsive in following the guidance below.** This was integral to the safe running of the school in the summer term and it must continue this academic year.

### Illness at Home

**Please do not send your child to school if they are at all unwell and notify the school for the reason of absence.** This includes a cough, cold, temperature, sore throat or just feeling under the weather. Please follow the government guidelines if your child or any other family member is showing any symptoms of COVID-19 and self-isolate. **Any member of your household with symptoms must self-isolate for at least 10 days from the commencement of symptoms.** Other members of the household (including any siblings) must self-isolate for **14 days** from when the symptomatic person first had symptoms. It is important that the school is notified of any COVID-19 test results.

### Illness at School

If a child, or a member of staff, becomes unwell at school with symptoms of COVID-19, they will be immediately isolated in the designated medical room. You will be contacted to take them home as soon as possible and take medical advice. Information regarding testing and self-isolation will be immediately provided and can be found [here](#) or via 111 online service; or by calling 119. Always call 999 in an emergency.

Anyone in England who tests positive for coronavirus will now be contacted via text, email or over the phone and asked to log on to the NHS Test and Trace website, where they'll be asked for details of people with whom they've been in close contact.

A member of the Senior Leadership Team will contact you if notification of a test result is not received by the school. On receipt of a negative test result, and if they feel well and no longer have symptoms similar to COVID-19, a pupil or staff member may return to school.

The supervising staff member and other children in the bubble will continue to wash their hands thoroughly, and do not need to go home unless they develop symptoms or the sick child subsequently tests positive. The school will notify all relevant families if a child in the bubble tests positive. If a child or teacher tests positive for COVID-19, the school will take advice from the local health protection team.



### **Government expectations regarding attendance**

Returning to school is vital for children's education and for their wellbeing and schools have been requested to remind families that all students of compulsory school age must be in school unless a statutory reason applies (for example, if they are unwell or their household is self-isolating due to symptoms of COVID-19). On 1 August, the UK government paused the shielding advice for all adults and children, subject to a continued decline in the rates of community transmission of coronavirus (COVID-19). This means that even the small number of pupils who will remain on the shielded patient list are expected to return to school, as are those who have family members who are shielding.

The government has advised that if rates of the virus rise in local areas, children and family members will be directed to shield only during the period where rates remain high. If your child or a member of your household is clinically 'extremely vulnerable' (shielding list) according to the definition given by the UK government, please contact Deputy Headteacher Tiggy Mitchell via [t.mitchell@brecknock.camden.sch.uk](mailto:t.mitchell@brecknock.camden.sch.uk), to declare the vulnerable status of your child or family member for our records. If your child has existing medical needs, please ensure that the school has up-to-date information and medicines (Epi-pens, inhalers etc.).

### **Quarantine**

If you have recently travelled abroad, please ensure you have followed government guidance on self-isolation and inform the school if your child will be absent due to quarantine regulations.

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### **System of controls: Ref DfE August 7th**

*This is the set of actions schools must take. They are grouped into 'prevention' and 'response to any infection'.*

#### **Prevention:**

- 1) minimise contact with individuals who are unwell by ensuring that those who have coronavirus (COVID19) symptoms, or who have someone in their household who does, do not attend school*
- 2) clean hands thoroughly more often than usual*
- 3) ensure good respiratory hygiene by promoting the 'catch it, bin it, kill it' approach*
- 4) introduce enhanced cleaning, including cleaning frequently touched surfaces often, using standard products such as detergents and bleach*
- 5) minimise contact between individuals and maintain social distancing wherever possible*
- 6) where necessary, wear appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE) Numbers 1 to 4 must be in place in all schools, all the time. Number 5 must be properly considered and schools must put in place measures that suit their particular circumstances. Number 6 applies in specific circumstances.*

#### **Response to any infection:**

- 7) engage with the NHS Test and Trace process*

*8) manage confirmed cases of coronavirus (COVID-19) amongst the school community*

*9) contain any outbreak by following local health protection team advice Numbers 7 to 9 must be followed in every case where they are relevant*