



West End Primary School

Newsletter

8 September 2020

Children Who are Unwell

Recently there has been some confusion regarding illness and when it is appropriate to send children to school. We understand parent concerns around this issue and have shared a flowchart with you (also available on the website) about what to do if your child, or anyone in your household, has symptoms or tests positive for Covid 19.



The information has been put together using government guidance from <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/actions-for-schools-during-the-coronavirus-outbreak/guidance-for-full-opening-schools> and the DFE guidance.

The main symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19) are:

- a high temperature - this means you feel hot to touch on your chest or back (you do not need to measure your temperature)
- a new, continuous cough - this means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours (if you usually have a cough, it may be worse than usual)
- a loss or change to your sense of smell or taste - this means you've noticed you cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal

If your child has any of the coronavirus symptoms, please do not send them to school and inform us immediately.

If your child **does not** have any of the above symptoms but is feeling unwell please keep them off school and inform us in the usual way. They may return to school as soon as they feel better. To further minimise the spread of infection we have reinstated the 48 hour rule for any child who has sickness or diarrhoea, i.e. your child must not attend for 48 hours after the **last bout** of vomiting or diarrhoea.

Drop off and Pick up

Thank you so much for your patience and support with our Covid 19 safety arrangements. So far they are working fairly well and we are delighted that the vast majority of parents are working with us on this, your co-operation is extremely helpful. We do all need to keep to the arrangements to minimise the number of adults in and around the school site at any time. I know it isn't terribly convenient, particularly if you have more than one child in school, but it is for everyone's safety.



Please make sure:

- Only **one adult** comes with your child on to the school site and, wherever possible on the way to school.
- You stick to your child's pick up and drop off time and gate. If you are late there will not be anyone to let your child in.
- You don't arrive too early. You will just be standing around until we can let you in.
- You drop off and collect siblings at their correct times, not some point in the middle. I know this is particularly tricky but if your child's door is closed in the morning there will be no-one to let them into their bubble and we need to clear the yard between each bubble at the end of the day.

All of these arrangements and more information about our Covid systems and protocols are on the school website under the Covid 19 tab at www.westend.northumberland.sch.uk

Bags



The children do not need to bring a bag every day. PE kits should remain in school (except Y5 who have been given separate instructions). Water bottles and packed lunches can be carried in separately.

Holidays

If you are planning a holiday during term time you must inform us by completing a holiday form, which you can print off from the school website or request to be sent home with your child (please don't call in at the office for one). We will ask you to tell us where you are going so that we know if you will need to self-isolate on your return. Please bear in mind when booking holidays that they cannot be authorised and that if you do need to self-isolate on return your child will miss a further two weeks of education.



Home/School Agreement



Thank you to everyone who has returned their home/school agreement. This is an important document which clarifies what school will do and what parents will do to try to keep us all as safe as possible during this difficult time. If you haven't returned it yet please could you do so as soon as possible.

Contact Details

We will not be sending newsletters home in hard copy this half term. This minimises the amount of items passing between school and home and helps the planet! We will send them by email and post them on Facebook, with a reminder by text. It is important that we have your up to date email address and phone number so that you do not miss out on any communications. If you have changed your email address or phone number during the holidays please contact the school office to inform us.



Term Dates

Friday 23rd October	Break up for half term
Wednesday 4th November	School re-opens
Friday 18th December	Break up for Christmas 2.00pm
Monday 4th January	School re-opens
Friday 12th February	Break up for half term
Monday 22nd February	School re-opens
Friday 26th March	Break up for Easter 2.00pm
Monday 12th April	School re-opens
Monday 3rd May	School closed for Bank holiday
Tuesday 4th May	School re-opens
Friday 28th May	Break up for half term
Monday 7th June	School re-opens
Friday 16th July	Break up for Summer 2.00pm



Please note Monday 2nd and Tuesday 3rd November are staff training days. We plan to use these days to move into our new building and re-organise the rest of the school. If the building work is delayed these training days may change. We will give you plenty of advance warning.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'Jane Bushell'.

Mrs J Bushell
Headteacher