

Thursday, 10 December 2020



THE CORBET SCHOOL

Headteacher Dr Jane Tinker BSc MA(Ed) EdD NPQH

Dear Parent / Carer

Firstly, can I say a huge thank you for your support throughout a very strange term. I feel that it started off with some disruption and has ended in the same way but we were very fortunate that the part in the middle passed by with relatively little disruption due to Covid-19 and I am very grateful for that as I am sure that we all are; parents, staff and pupils alike.

I thought that it would be helpful to confirm a few points regarding the end of term and the 'Track and Trace' process undertaken by schools in the event of a pupil or staff member testing positive for Covid-19.

At all times, we are guided by the DfE, Public Health England and Shropshire Public Health when dealing with self-isolation advice to staff and pupils. The DfE hold the view that as many children as possible must be in school and from early on in the term the advice changed from a bubble isolation approach to asking schools to track and trace close contacts of confirmed cases. We have also been asked to undertake this process through the Christmas holidays until the 24th December 2020. Issuing a self-isolation letter is not something we take lightly but we must do this in line with guidance and to protect the wider population. **Parents and staff are advised that they only need to inform us of a positive test if the symptoms emerged within 48 hours of being in school.**

The text below is taken directly from the DfE email to schools:

- *Where a pupil or staff member tests positive for coronavirus (COVID-19), having developed symptoms more than 48 hours since being in school, the school should not be contacted. Parents and carers should follow contact tracing instructions provided by NHS Test and Trace.*
- *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.*

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If your child tests positive for Covid-19 please follow these procedures to enable us to protect the wider population and issue the self-isolation guidance required:0202

- Email positivecovidtest@corbetschool.net this email will be monitored once per day at 10.00am.
- The detail you must include is:
 - Name of pupil
 - Last date in school
 - Date the symptoms started and what they were
 - Date of the positive test
 - Evidence of the positive test (a photo of the test result or email)
 - A phone number you can be contacted on between 10.00 and 11.00am and we will need to speak to your child to identify their contacts at break and lunchtime during the time they were infectious (48 hours before symptoms started) and any time they were in school with symptoms.

Following this we will use the following information to identify any close contacts (those within 2m for 15 minutes or more and those within 1m for any length of time). We will identify these contacts using the seating plans that have been provided by teachers for their classes in the last week of term and the bus seating plans.

Any pupils or staff who have to self-isolate will be advised by a text to the phone number we have on our systems and a letter emailed to parents. Please do not use the email address above for any queries relating to the issue of self-isolation letters we will have acted fully on all of the information available to us and will be unable to undertake any further checks.

At all times we will follow the guidance of the DfE, Public Health England and Shropshire Health Protection Team advice.

I can confirm that the school term will end at **3.20pm on Friday 18th December** with the pupils returning to school on **Tuesday 5th January 2021**.

I really do hope that we are planning for the worst and hoping for the best and that we can all have a peaceful and Happy Christmas.

Best wishes,



Dr Jane Tinker
Headteacher