



Waddesdon C of E School | Coronavirus Newsletter 13 – 18/09/20

“Joy, collected over time, fuels resilience.” Brene Brown



Despite the challenges of the new situation in school, there have already been numerous instances of joy in the past two weeks. The singing in our year group assemblies by Bea and Charlie has been both powerful and uplifting; the students’ response to the launch of our anti-racist charter has been exciting and humbling; and the regular sparks of learning that are ignited across the school lesson-by-lesson have reminded us all about the importance of being in school and learning together. **Such moments sustain us in harder times.**

In this edition of our newsletter, you will find updates on:

- Safety Measures in School
- Areas where we need your help
- Advice on how to differentiate between a cold and Covid-19
- A Covid-19 Quick Guide for Parents
- How we would operate in the event of partial or total lockdown



If your email inbox is anything like mine, it can be hard to keep everything at the forefront of your mind. I hope that this summary of the information we have already sent you, as well as some new guidance, will give you the confidence to know what to do.

If you have any questions, do ring us on 01296 651382 or email on office@waddesdonschool.com

Mr Abbott



Safety Measures in School

Your son or daughter has now been practising the safety measures outlined in the Family Guidance Pack in school for two weeks. The following have become second nature for most students:

- Following the routes for specific year groups
- Washing hands at the entry points to buildings
- Wearing masks in corridors
- Restricting social groups to 6 at lunch and breaktime



Working with you, our joint role is to enable all students and staff to be (and also feel) safe while in school.

[This NHS video](#) has been shown to Years 7-10 this week; Years 11-13 will watch it next week. It brings home the importance of the measures we have put in place and as well as why we have adopted the rule of 6 at social times to reduce the likelihood of transmission of the virus. Whereas students learn side by side in their classroom, when socialising they are more likely to be facing each other hence the decision to apply this rule.

Three areas where we need your help



Forgotten Face Masks

We know that children will forget face masks on occasion, but ask that if they do they buy a washable face mask which is both more environmentally friendly and also more effective. These are available from the Main Reception.

According to some estimates, globally we are using 129 billion face masks per month. With divers and observers spotting more of this discarded waste floating underwater, causing problems for wildlife and washing up on shorelines all over the world, there's never been a more important time than now to buy washable facemasks if you haven't already.

Buses

While we are confident that all the students (with the exception of a handful of exempt children) leave school on the buses wearing face masks, we believe that some students remove them once the journey has started and the bus has left School Lane.



We need your help to ensure that your child understands why wearing a mask is the socially responsible thing to do while travelling on public transport. Without your help, we are not able to guarantee parents that this is the case for the entire journey.

The Local Authority have also outlined the following important guidance for parents and carers to remind their children that:

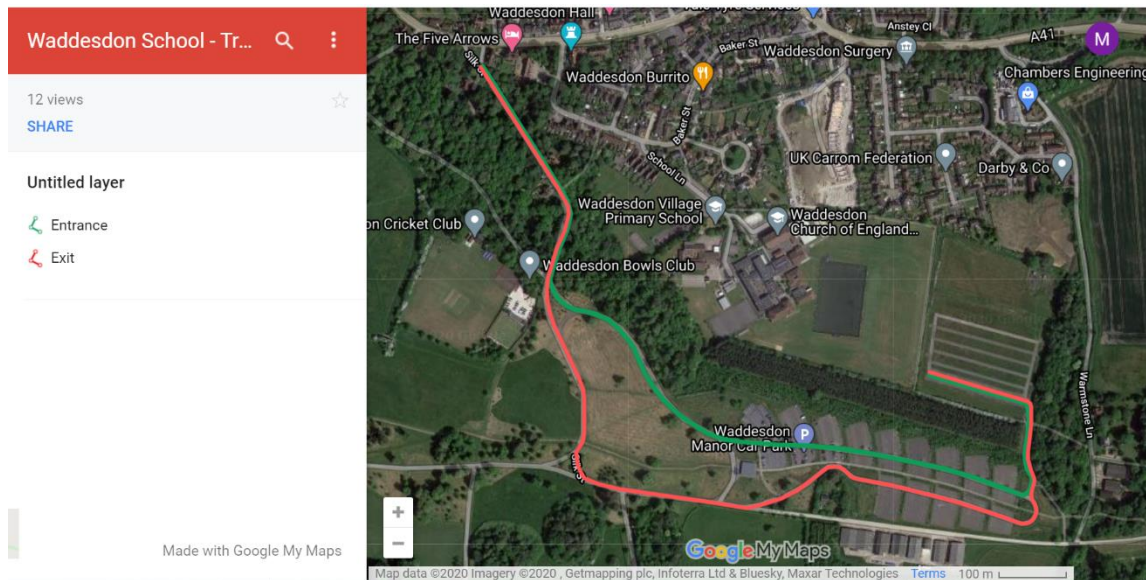
- buses should be filled from the back and,
 - children should sit in the same seats both coming to school and on the return journey.
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Parking and Pick Up

Finally, we also need your help to improve the safety in the village as well as being good neighbours to the local residents. Since my letter last week, sadly there have been reports of cars mounting pavements to park and inadvertently putting children at risk.

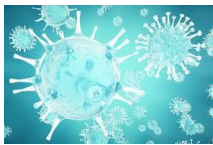
If you haven't started using the Manor car park, please can you give a thought to the local residents and the risk to students of driving on the congested roads close to the school. Parents who continue to park illegally are likely to have their licence numbers passed to the Police by local residents.

Below is another copy of the map which was issued with the letter last Friday.



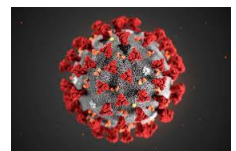
If there are further problems with the bollards not being lowered as there were on Monday 14th, please contact the school so we can let the Manor know.

Cold or Covid?

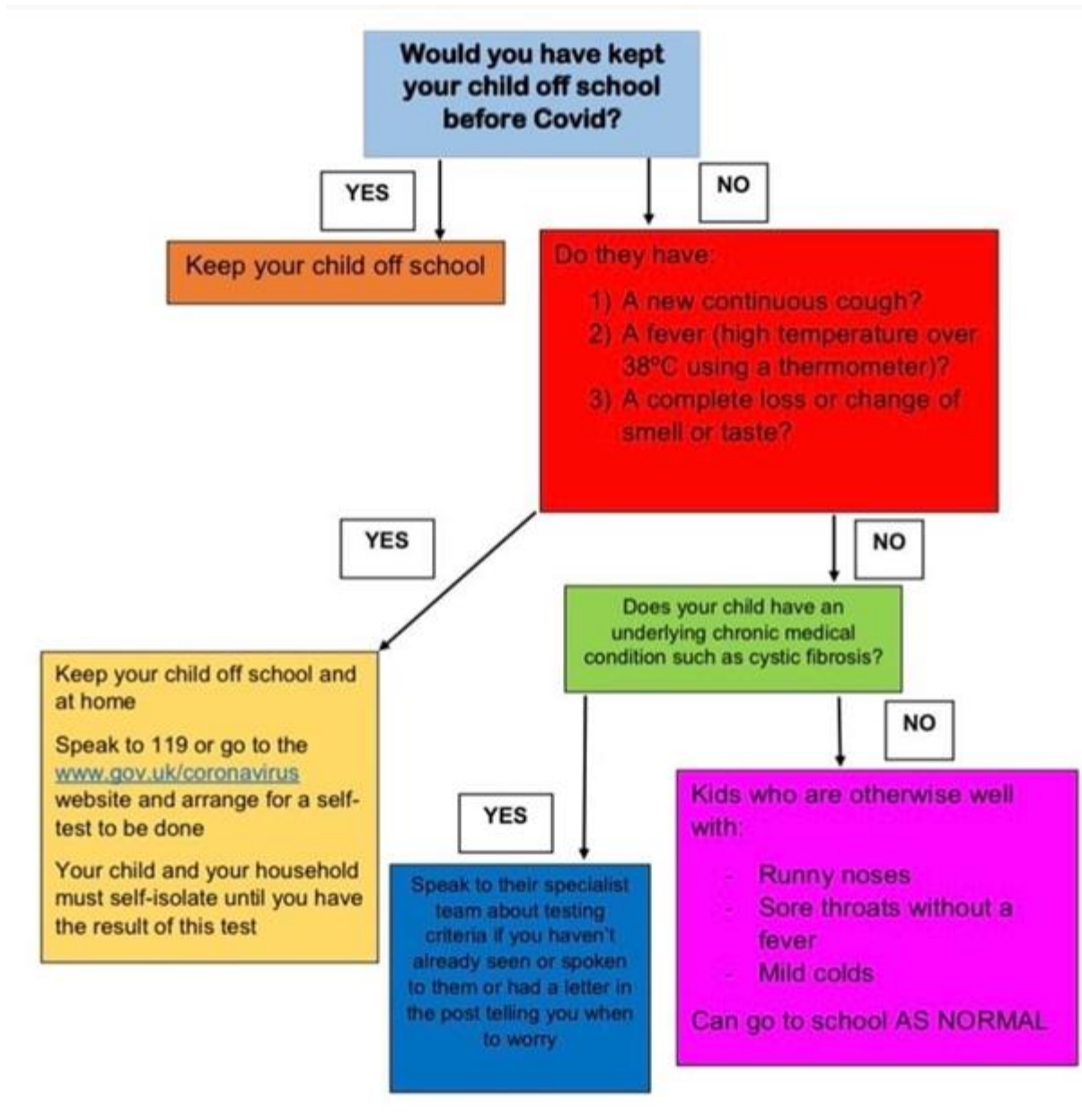


Dan Flecknoe, Public Health England representative at the Local Authority, has said that the large amount of minor viral illness that we are all facing at the moment, and which are taking children and staff out of school to self-isolate, is due to the fact that we have had a prolonged period out of school.

Now that we are back after 6 months the proximity in school and the populations depleted immune system is leading to all of these minor colds. Positively Dan expects these cases to fall away over the next couple of weeks.



On the next page you will find a copy of the flow chart that we sent out earlier in the week to help you identify how to assess whether you should keep your child off school or not.



Note: 38°C is the temperature recommended by the [NHS website for fevers in children](https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/fever-in-children/). The advice, if you ring 111, is that you should take action if there is a temperature of 37.8°C and above.

Quick Guide for Parents





On the next two pages there are simple to follow “What to do if...” scenarios which will help with your decision-making at home.

As a rough average we have approximately 6 students off school awaiting Covid-19 tests per day, 100% of which have been negative to date, including those before the summer. There is a very clear plan of action should there be a positive result.



COVID-19 (Coronavirus)

A quick guide for parents/carers

What to do if...	Action needed	Back to school...
 <p>...my child has COVID-19 (coronavirus) symptoms*</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Child shouldn't attend school • Child should get a test • Whole household self-isolates while waiting for test results • Inform school immediately about test results 	<p>...if a child's test comes back negative and symptom free for 48 hours. The child should not be tested again unless they develop new symptoms*</p> <p>If the test result is positive, then see below.</p>
 <p>...my child tests positive for COVID-19 (coronavirus)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Child should not attend school • Child self-isolates for at least 10 days from when symptoms* started (or from day of test if no symptoms) • Inform school immediately about test results • Whole household self-isolates for 14 days from day when symptoms* started (or from day of test if no symptoms) - even if someone tests negative during those 14 days • Other household members should not get tested unless they develop symptoms because even if they tested negative, they must still isolate for 14 days 	<p>...after 10 days has passed so long as the child is feeling better and has been without a fever for at least 48 hours.</p> <p>They can return to school after 10 days even if they still have a cough or loss of smell/taste. These symptoms can last for several weeks once the infection is gone.</p>
 <p>...somebody in my household has COVID-19 (coronavirus) symptoms*</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Child shouldn't attend school • Household member with symptoms should get a test • Whole household self-isolates while waiting for test result • Inform school immediately about test results 	<p>...if the household member test is negative, and the child does not have COVID-19 symptoms*</p>
 <p>...somebody in my household has tested positive for COVID-19 (coronavirus)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Child shouldn't attend school • Whole household self-isolates for 14 days from day when symptoms* started (or from day of test if no symptoms) - even if someone tests negative during those 14 days • No need for the child to get tested unless they develop symptoms 	<p>...when child has completed 14 days of self-isolation, even if they tested negative during the 14 days</p>



...NHS Test and Trace has identified my child as a 'close contact' of somebody with symptoms* or confirmed COVID-19 (coronavirus)

- Child shouldn't attend school
- Child self-isolates for 14 days (as advised by NHS Test and Trace) - even if they tested negative during those 14 days
- Rest of household does not need to self-isolate, unless they are a 'close contact' too

...when the child has completed 14 days of self-isolation, even if they tested negative during those 14 days



...we/my child has travelled and has to self-isolate as part of a period of quarantine

- Do not take unauthorised leave in term time
- Consider quarantine requirements and FCO advise when booking travel
- Provide information to school as per attendance policy

Returning from a destination where quarantine is needed:

- Child shouldn't attend school
- Whole household self-isolates for 14 days - even if they test negative during those 14 days

...when the quarantine period of 14 days has been completed for the child, even if they test negative during those 14 days



...we have received advice from a medical/official source that my child must resume shielding

- Child shouldn't attend school
- Contact school as advised by attendance officer/pastoral team
- Child should shield until you are informed that their restrictions are lifted, and shielding is paused again

...when school/other agencies inform you that restrictions have been lifted and your child can return to school again



...I am not sure who should get a test for COVID-19 (coronavirus)

- Only people with symptoms* need to get a test
- People without symptoms are not advised to get a test, even if they are a 'close contact' of someone who tested positive

...when conditions above as matching your situation, are met

Restaurant News



The return to school has provided our students with access to delicious and nutritious food served daily in the restaurant and the hall.

Why not suggest your son or daughter has a hot vegetarian or meat meal on the days that she or he is in the restaurant for lunch?

Partial or total lockdown

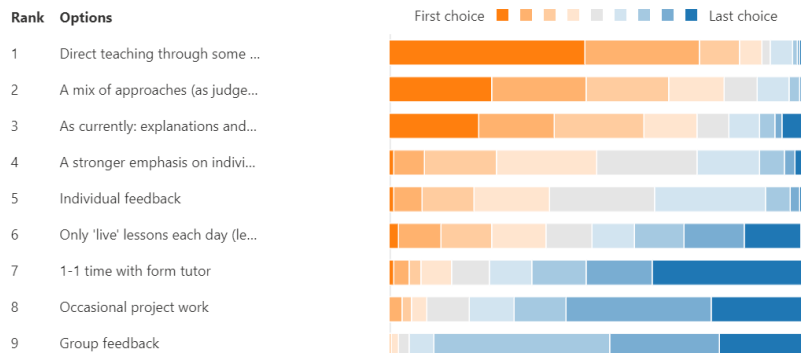
In July, 173 parents responded to a survey sent home about learning in the event of a partial or total lockdown.

You may remember that you were asked to rank the 9 options in order of preference. We did this partly in recognition of the fact that teacher time is finite. The top choices were:

- Direct teaching through some 'live' lessons, with independent practice to consolidate learning afterwards
- A mix of approaches (as judged by the subject specialist) most likely to improve knowledge and skills
- As currently (i.e. through Show My Homework)
- A stronger emphasis on individual practice and feedback

Over the summer we upgraded our IT systems to Windows 10 and improved our ability to work with Microsoft Teams. This will enable us to operate a blended approach.

In the event of us needing to send a year group home, teachers will use a mix of approaches as appropriate.



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