



To Parents & Carers



Date: 05/10/2021

Dear parents and carers

We are writing to you so that you know how we are working with schools to manage Covid-19 and what you can do to help.

With the virus circulating in our communities, we are seeing an increasing number of cases in our schools. This is something that is happening across the country.

Where there is a number of positive cases in a school, the government has provided guidance that sets out the measures that should be taken to further minimise the spread of the virus. Our health protection team uses this guidance to advise borough schools about how to manage Covid outbreaks.

Step up, step down measures

Where they are needed, your school will put temporary measures in place to reduce the spread of the virus.

These 'step-up' measures could include recommending PCR testing for children in affected groups, re-introducing 'bubbles' whereby classes are separated and consideration of the use of face coverings (only where it is appropriate to do so). Other measures may include limiting parental attendance in settings and providing virtual transition or taster days. All measures will be implemented with consideration and focus on minimal disruption to the children involved.

Your school will inform you of any step-up measures if they need to be introduced.

As soon as the number of cases at a school reduces, these measures will be stepped down again.

It is likely that schools in Telford and Wrekin, and those up and down the country, will need to use 'step up' measures on and off throughout the year.

How you can help

To keep education and family life moving in Telford and Wrekin, we need everyone's help.

Some practical things you can do to reduce the spread of the virus include:

- If your child has Covid symptoms, however mild, please keep them off school and book a PCR test at www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test

- Check household members for Covid twice a week at home with lateral flow tests, even if you are feeling well.
- If a member of your household has Covid, book a PCR test for all other members of the household.
- Remember hands-face-space and fresh air.

By making the above part of your routine, even if you have had your Covid vaccinations, you can help to stop the spread and keep your school community enjoying the things they love.

Thank you for all the efforts you and our schools are putting into tackling the virus.

Let's all keep life moving in Telford and Wrekin.

Yours faithfully



Helen Onions

Deputy Statutory Director of Public Health