

Whole School Attendance Policy annexe in the light of Covid- 19

1. Who should attend school at this time?

- Vulnerable children for whom our risk assessment process indicates they would be best placed in school (this applies to those students with an EHCP and also those open at CIN and CP level to Children's Social Care alongside other students where we have agreed a placement in school is in their best interests)
- Children of key workers (where required)
- Year 10 and 12 students - *as notified*

2. Provision for those students not currently eligible for a place in school

Those students who are not eligible for a place at this time will work at home, completing work set online for them by their teachers.

3. What if I do not want a place in school for my child at this time?

Eligible children – including priority groups – are strongly encouraged to attend their education setting, unless they are self-isolating or they are clinically vulnerable.

Parents will not be penalised if their child does not attend school at this time.

If a student is not engaging with the remote learning set, we may ask that your child begin to attend Open School so they are not vulnerable in terms of poor educational outcomes on the return to school.

School registers will be used and absences will be recorded. At this time, all absences will be recorded as authorised. The data held in School Attendance registers at this time will not count towards your child's or to the school's overall attendance data.

4. When should your child NOT attend school

IT is **ESSENTIAL** that you do not send your child to school for 7 days if they have any of the following symptoms:

- a new continuous cough
- a high temperature
- a loss of, or change in, your normal sense of taste or smell (anosmia)

If these symptoms remain (excepting the cough) after the 7 days then they should remain at home until these symptoms pass.

You should also not send your child to school if:

- *The household is self-isolating*- from day 1 of a member of the household showing the above symptoms, the remainder of the household should self-isolate for 14 days. If they subsequently become ill then they should isolate for 7 days or until they no longer have a high temperature and/or loss of smell and taste

- They have tested positive for Covid-19 - they should then isolate for 7 days
- A student in the class tests positive - we will inform you if this happens. At this point, your child should self-isolate for 14 days. **Parents should ensure that school has an up to date emergency contact number**
- Any student who is classed as clinically extremely vulnerable should not attend school - **You will know this as you will have a letter to direct your child to shield. We may ask for a copy of this letter**
- Any student who is clinically vulnerable AND has medical advice advising to shield. **We may ask to see a copy of this advice**
- If a member of your household is classed as extremely clinically vulnerable, we will discuss individually the measures that may be needed to ensure a safe return to school. We will only ask for a return to school in cases where we are clear that strict social distancing can be adhered to at all times
- If a member of the household is classed as clinically vulnerable or is pregnant then the student SHOULD attend school.

5. What happens if my child develops symptoms when on site?

In this situation, we will make immediate contact in order to send the student home. **It is ESSENTIAL that parents have provided us with up to date contact details and that parents respond quickly to enable us to remove the student from site as soon as possible.**

Parents/ carers should ensure that a test is requested and inform school of the result of this test as soon as possible.

If the test is positive then the student should remain at home for 7 days and the class group will be self-isolated.

If the test is negative then the student should return to school as soon as they are well.

School procedures

1. **The School day** – Open School runs from 9.00am – 3.15pm (2.15pm Friday). Provision for Years 10 and 12 will be communicated in due course.
2. **Absence from school**

In the circumstance of a student who is due into school not attending at school at the required session time:

School will:	Parent/ carer will:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Investigate the absence and code the register as below • Consider if any safeguarding responses are necessary • Make contact with the family if a pattern of absence develops 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inform school by 9.30am by phone or email • Provide an expected return date and a reason for the absence • If the absence is Covid- 19 related the parent should request a test and inform school of the outcome of the test

3. Punctuality

We expect that students arrive at school punctually and ensure they are registered. School registers will close at 9.30 (but may vary in the case of a staggered start).

It is important that students be on time as the school day is structured to avoid mixing and ease social distancing. Late students may compromise the safe running of school.

1. Legal intervention

Absences during this period are exempt from prosecution.

Under the Coronavirus Act 2020, we have disapplied certain statutory provisions, so that the parent of a child of compulsory school age is not guilty of an offence on account of the child's failure to attend regularly at the school at which the child is registered (section 444 of the Education Act 1996). This means that parents will not be penalised if their child does not attend school.

2. Leave requests

The protocol and school policy around leave in term time remains the same. This will only be granted in exceptional circumstances. Parent/cares must request permission for the leave BEFORE the absence. Requests cannot be agreed retrospectively.

Whilst the current situation feels exceptional to us all this should not in itself be seen as an exceptional reason to support a request for leave. The Covid-19 Lockdown situation has affected all families. This lengthy absence from school was unavoidable but once we are able to return to face to face teaching it is essential that we have full classes to enable students to fill in any learning gaps.