

Friday 12th November

Somerville News

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AIMING HIGH TOGETHER



INFORMATION FROM PUBLIC HEALTH WIRRAL

Dear Parents and Carers,

You may be aware that rates of COVID-19 in Wirral seem to be very slowly decreasing. However, they are still way too high and local schools and settings are still experiencing COVID-19 outbreaks. As we are also entering the Winter season, viruses other than COVID will be circulating, so local schools/settings will face a huge challenge in attempting to reduce the risk of infections spreading.

Whilst we know that infection can and does happen within the setting environment, our local Public Health team has told us that almost half of all Wirral's current COVID-19 cases are due to infection within households. On the basis of this, we have been asked to issue the following guidance:

If any member of your household has tested positive for COVID-19 or has any of the main symptoms of COVID-19, your child can continue to attend their setting only under the following conditions:

- 1. You should book them a PCR test (ideally on day 3-5 after they were first in contact with the household case)**
- 2. You should let the setting know what the PCR test result is and if positive your child must stay at home for 10 days of self-isolation.**

Your child can continue to attend their setting as long as they remain symptom-free and PCR tests are negative.

We would like to remind you that you can order test kits for your own household via the online service (www.gov.uk/order-coronavirus-rapid-lateral-flow-tests) or by calling 119

We are recommending the above measures to ensure the safety of children and staff in our settings, to minimise the disruption to children's education and to ensure our settings remain open.

Thank you once again for your continued support and co-operation.

Dates for your Diary

Friday 17th December

Last day of term

Monday 20th December - Monday 3rd January

Christmas Holidays

Tuesday 4th January

INSET day

Wednesday 5th January

Children return to school

COVID-19 - TESTING

Please be aware that if your child displays **ANY ONE** of the three main symptoms in school, they will be required to isolate until a negative PCR test is returned. Covid-19 has not gone away and although restrictions have eased nationally we are still required to ensure anyone with symptoms is isolated and a test carried out. There have been incidents of some schools now having to send classes home due to 'breakouts'. We do not want this to happen in our school again due to the negative effect of closing bubbles on the children's education and wellbeing. Testing and isolating is critical to ensuring this does not happen.

The paragraph below is taken directly from the DEPARTMENT FOR EDUCATION GUIDANCE

Please see our Federation website to find out current levels of infection.

If you suspect your child has coronavirus or has a positive test

Do not send your child to their nursery, childminder or school, if:

- they are showing one or more [coronavirus \(COVID-19\) symptoms](#)
- they have had a positive test result
- there are other reasons requiring them to stay at home, for example, they are [required to quarantine](#), or they are awaiting their PCR result after a positive lateral flow test

You should follow public health advice on [when to self-isolate and what to do](#).