



# St. Edward's Church of England Academy

Westwood Road, Leek, ST13 8DN

Telephone: 01538 714740

Principal: Mr. T. Hutchinson

<http://stedwards.academy>

24<sup>th</sup> September 2021

Dear Parent/Carer,

## Updates for this week:



Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope I find you all well. Thank you for all the support in helping us to start the term in line with our 10:10 vision. Your children, our pupils have come back to school, eager to learn, happy and ready to embrace all the activities the Academy has to offer.

We will continue to update you with letters and other correspondence through the academic year so please keep a look out for emails and text messages from the Academy. We want to keep you as up to date as possible especially as we navigate our full reopening from the Covid-19 lock down period.

## Covid-19 Measures and Cases within the Academy

Following liaison with the Local Outbreak Team, we are introducing some further precautionary measures as of Monday 27<sup>th</sup> September 2021.

- We are requesting that pupils don face masks in all indoor communal areas at break and lunchtimes and between lessons, except when eating and drinking at lunch time. This does not apply to pupils who are exempt from wearing a mask. Pupils should bring a mask with them, though we do have some available that can be collected from Reception should they forget or break one. This does not include pupils who are exempt from wearing a mask.

Other measures that are already in place and will continue to ensure everyone's safety and well-being are:

- Collective Worship being conducted via Teams
- Adapting school events where possible to ensure they are as safe as they can be
- Sanitiser provided for all around the Academy
- Windows and doors are open to provide ventilation
- Set seating plans to allow rapid track and trace within the Academy of any close contacts

Pupils in Year 7 and 8 and all households should continue to test twice weekly at home. If you receive a positive result from a lateral flow test, you should seek a PCR as soon as possible and then follow the isolation guidance as below.

### **What to do if NHS Track and Trace contact you:**

1. If your child is identified as a close contact by NHS Test and Trace, your child should continue attending school and you should arrange for them to have a PCR COVID-19 test. Only if this test is positive or your child is displaying one of the three COVID-19 symptoms do they need to refrain from school and self-isolate. In line with the latest government guidelines that were released in August 2021, identified close contacts who are under 18 years of age, do not need to self-isolate.
2. If your child does test positive for Covid-19 they should stay at home for the 10-day isolation period and the school will provide remote education from the second day, so that they can continue their learning if they are well enough to do so. Remote education will not be extended to children who are absent for other reasons.

We know that you may find this concerning, but we are continuing to monitor the situation with the support of the Local Authority. This letter is to inform you of the current situation and provide advice on how to support your child. Please be reassured that for most young people, coronavirus (COVID-19) will be a mild illness.

### **What to do if your child develops symptoms of COVID-19**

If your child develops symptoms of COVID-19, they must not come to school and should remain at home for at least 10 days from the day after their symptoms appeared. Anyone with symptoms should seek a test and this can be arranged via <https://www.nhs.uk/ask-for-a-coronavirus-test> or by calling 119.

Household members no longer need to isolate if they are under 18 years of age or are double vaccinated.

Further information is available at:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-stay-at-home-guidance/stay-at-home-guidance-forhouseholds-with-possible-coronavirus-covid-19-infection>

The 10-day period starts from the day after the first person in the house became ill.

### **Symptoms:**

The most common symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19) are recent onset of:

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

If your child or anyone in the household does develop symptoms, you can seek advice from NHS 111 at

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/check-if-you-have-coronavirus-symptoms/>

or by phoning 111.

## How to stop COVID-19 spreading:

There are things you can do to help reduce the risk of you and anyone you live with getting ill with COVID-19.

### Do

- wash your hands with soap and water often – do this for at least 20 seconds
- use hand sanitiser gel if soap and water are not available
- wash your hands as soon as you get home
- cover your mouth and nose with a tissue or your sleeve (not your hands) when you cough or sneeze
- put used tissues in the bin immediately and wash your hands afterwards

Further information is available at <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/>

### Spare PE kit donations

Please can I request if any parents/carers have any spare Academy PE kit or serviceable trainers at home that pupils have grown out of and you would like to donate could pupils bring it to their PE lessons, where we will quarantine them. We will give house points for donated items and redistributed them to pupils who need it or keep it in school as spare kit.

### Pupils with medical needs and/or diabetes who are returning

If your child has medical needs and requires medication (e.g. inhaler and spacer, EpiPen, diabetic kit), please ensure that your child brings their medication to school with them ready to hand in at the school office on their return.

If you have any queries or concerns regarding your child's medical needs, please contact us via the contact form on the Academy website.

### Before and after school club

Kids Space before and after school club will resume as per the arrangements prior to the Christmas break. If you require any further information regarding this, please call Lyn on 07534 839280.

Thank you for your support in helping us to keep everyone as safe as possible at school.

Yours sincerely,



Mr T Hutchinson  
Principal