



St. Edward's Church of England Academy

Westwood Road, Leek, ST13 8DN

Telephone: 01538 714740

Principal: Mr. T. Hutchinson

<http://stedwards.academy>

17th December 2021

Updates for this week:



Dear Parents and Carers,

We have completed the Autumn Term and I am sure like the pupils and staff you are looking forward to the celebrations and sharing of gifts at Christmas. The staff and pupils have been working hard in the Academy in so many different ways, this work hasn't just been in the last few weeks but since the start of term. The activities and celebrations that the pupils have shared with staff over the last few weeks have been amazing to see.

Our Year 8 'Young Leaders' have organised activities and games to celebrate Christmas, our Year 6 pupils have sat their English and Maths mocks SATS and they have applied themselves and acted in a 10:10 manner, making all the staff very proud. Year 5 and 7 have thrown themselves into curricular and extracurricular activities and have behaved so positively that they are making great strides in their recovery curriculum. Well done to you all.

I would also like to express my gratitude to the work of the Trustees for the unceasing efforts behind the scenes and support in the leadership and management of the Academy.

I wish you all a happy and Holy Christmas.

God Bless

Mr. Hutchinson
Principal

Equality Objectives for the Academy

THANK YOU! To all the parents and carers who have provided responses. The new policy is now on our website and the Equality Objectives for the next 4 years are:

[St Edwards Academy](#)

Testing for KS3 Pupils on our return in January 2022

There will be an onsite lateral flow test for Year 7 and Year 8 pupils on Tuesday 4th January 2022. **The test will be on site but pupils will go home after the test.** (Please refer to letter dated Monday 13th December).

Along with the other protective measures we are taking, these tests will help staff and pupils to remain in school safely. Up to one third of people who have coronavirus experience no symptoms. By testing we will help to stop the virus spread and help to keep our Academy community open as safely as possible. The test is voluntary, but I would encourage everyone to take it.

An instructional leaflet along with other Covid-19 information can be found on the Academy website here:

<https://www.stedwards.academy/pastoral/covid-19-guidance>

If you are happy for your child to be tested, and you have NOT yet completed the consent form please do so using the link that can be found below (if you have previously completed this we will assume consent still remains, unless we have it in writing that you have withdrawn your consent):

<https://forms.office.com/r/VumwMeUSNP>

The School Day and Supervision:

Please be aware that Academy Staff are on the yards and gates from 8:35 am. Gates may be open but pupils are unsupervised prior to this. Pupils must not be in the building before this time unless prior arrangement.

Parent Pay

Please make sure that you have checked your Parent Pay balance, cleared any debts and topped up ready for pupils to access their funds for next term.

Covid-19 Vaccinations for 12-15-year olds:

The NHS is now offering 2nd jabs or boosters for everyone in the England. Pupils with consent received their first vaccine in the Academy on 5th November. If you wish to book a further vaccination please contact the NHS Immunisation Team.

Telephone: 0300 124 0366

Email: school.immunisation@mpft.nhs.uk

Covid Measures and Cases within the Academy

Due to a rapid increase in the number of cases within the Academy and the wider local community we are requesting that all 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
- No visitors other than those who are business critical to the Academy will be allowed on site
- Set seating plans to allow rapid track and trace within the Academy of any close contacts

Pupils in Year 7 and Year 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.

If you are identified as a close contact you should now Lateral Flow Test every day for 7 days after being made aware of the contact infection.

Daily testing for contacts of COVID-19 – Latest Government Guidelines

From 14 December, a new national approach to daily testing for contacts of COVID-19 has been introduced. All adults who are fully vaccinated and children aged 5 to 18 years and 6 months, identified as a contact of someone with COVID-19 – whether Omicron or not – should take an LFD test every day for 7 days instead of self-isolating. Children under five years old do not need to take part in daily testing for contacts of COVID-19 and do not need to isolate.

Once notified by Test and Trace as a close contact, all eligible staff, pupils and students are strongly recommended to take a LFD each day for 7 days and report the results through the [online reporting system](#) and to their setting. If they test negative, they can continue to attend their education setting. Outside of the education setting, they should continue to follow [national guidance](#). This approach should also be adopted over the Christmas holiday and on return in January.

All staff and secondary aged pupils and students should have access to a box of 7 LFD test kits from their education setting. If your setting requires additional test kits sooner than they would be available through the standard ordering process, or will run out of test kits imminently, you can contact 119 to request an emergency replenishment. For primary aged children LFD test kits are available through the usual routes community test sites, local pharmacies or [order COVID-19 rapid lateral flow tests online](#).

What to do if your child develops symptoms of COVID19

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/>

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

Yours sincerely,



Mr T Hutchinson
Principal