



EXWICK HEIGHTS PRIMARY SCHOOL

Autumn Term – September 17th 2020

Website: www.exwickheights.devon.sch.uk

Dear Parents & Carers,

I thought it might be sensible to contact you to share the answers to some questions that several parents have contacted our office about with regard to Covid 19 and attendance. I have used a similar format to that used by another school within the Ted Wragg Multi Academy Trust, St James, and so apologise to parents who may have already received a similar document via an elder sibling!

We know that there has been concern expressed by parents about the challenge of booking coronavirus tests at the moment. The Government have announced that new testing laboratories will be opening to address the high demand. In the meantime, we have discovered from individuals who have been successful in booking a test (when needed) that appointments are released throughout the day and perseverance is key to success. I recognise that this is far from satisfactory when you have an unwell child or adult – but I'm afraid that the challenge of booking a test does not mean that we are able to overlook guidance. We, as a school community, need to ensure that we all follow the guidance to protect our community. Currently, cases in Devon are low compared to elsewhere in the country but this does not mean that we can become complacent.

Exwick Lane

Now that our youngest pupils have settled into school life, to ease pressure on the use of Exwick Lane, from Monday 21st of September, KS2 pupils living in Cheltenham Close, Peterborough Road, Chester Close, Guildford Close and Cleve Lane only, will be able to enter and leave our school through the Peterborough Road entrance following the current one-way system around the Early Years building. We will contact the relevant families affected by this with further information and will also show the relevant KS2 pupils the correct route on Friday.

We politely ask that KS2 children who do not live in these roads to continue to access the school site in the usual way to prevent additional congestion.

We would also like to suggest that it would be helpful if we try to keep to the left wherever possible when walking along the narrow Exwick Lane, to help to ease congestion and enable families travelling in both directions a clear path.

Face Masks

Please can I also remind our families that we would like to encourage adults attending the area around the school to wear a face covering if possible, to help to make our children's journey to and from school even safer. We recognise that some individuals are unable to wear a face covering and we are also very mindful that we have no right to ask this. However, if more of us wear a face covering, we greatly reduce the risk if a footpath or road is busy with other pedestrians. Thank you for your support.

Best wishes,
Caroline Neal

Frequently Asked Questions: Coronavirus and Attendance



What are the three coronavirus symptoms?

If a person has any one or more of the symptoms below, they should self-isolate:

- New persistent, dry cough
- Fever (above 37.5 degrees Celsius)
- Anosmia (loss or change in taste and/or smell)

My child has coronavirus symptoms. What should I do?

Your child should self-isolate for 10 days and get a test. Everyone else in your household should self-isolate for 14 days. Do not send your child to school.

Someone in our household has symptoms. What should I do?

The person with symptoms should self-isolate for 10 days and get a test. Everyone else in your household should self-isolate for 14 days. Do not send your child to school.

My child has a sore throat. Can they attend school?

Yes. They should attend school as long as they have no coronavirus symptoms and are well enough.

My child has a cold. Can they attend school?

Yes. They should attend school as long as they have no coronavirus symptoms and are well enough.

Should my child have a test?

If your child has any coronavirus symptoms, they need to get a test done as soon as possible. They need to get the test done within the first 5 days of having symptoms. If they are unable to be tested within the first 5 days of having symptoms, they must self-isolate for 10 days. You can book a visit to a test site to have the test on the same day. You can order a home test kit if you cannot get to a test site.

My child is waiting for a test. Can I send them to school?

No. They should self-isolate for 10 days or until they have a negative test result.

What if I cannot get a test?

We know that there are some delays in testing. Please keep trying. On days 1 to 4 (after the symptoms started), your child can be tested at a site or at home, booking a test online or by phone. If you wish to order a home test kit, please order it before day 4 at 3pm. On day 5, your child will need to go to a test site as it is too late to take a home test. Your child must self-isolate if they cannot get a test because it's more than 5 days since your symptoms started.

How long should my child and/or our household self-isolate?

If you have symptoms or have tested positive for coronavirus, you'll usually need to self-isolate for at least 10 days or until you receive a negative test result.

You'll usually need to self-isolate for 14 days if:

- someone you live with has symptoms or tested positive;
- someone in your support bubble has symptoms or tested positive; and/or
- you've been told to self-isolate by NHS Test and Trace.

Read more about how long to self-isolate on the NHS website:

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/self-isolation-and-treatment/how-long-to-self-isolate/>

