18 September 2020

Dear Parents

Welcome back to the Autumn Term. It's been so lovely having a full school again. The children have been super at adapting to the new routines to keep us all safe - well done to them all.

Over the holidays we have had some building work going on in school to improve the toilet area which had been in high need of refurbishment for some time. We now have a superb suite of toilets with lovely, bright cubicles and a disabled bathroom too. There have also been works on the Nursery and Reception outdoor areas.

The teachers are working really hard to support the children after their long time away from school, as well as putting in contingency plans for if there is a local lockdown or if families are having to self isolate. Our Curriculum Intent for the Autumn Term has three focus areas:

* supporting the mental health and wellbeing of our pupils
* reducing the gap in English and Maths knowledge and understanding that may have been the result of the school closure
* ensuring a broad and balanced curriculum is still provided for all children.

The accompanying letter from your child's class teacher describes specifically what your child will be covering this term. If we lock down, or if you are self isolating, a grid for learning activities will be placed on the school website, click the Parent Tab, followed by the Home learning 20/21 Tab. These activities will match the learning objectives that the class would be covering that week. If you can’t access the internet, then packs of learning will be provided. We would be grateful if you could arrange for someone to collect these packs from the school gate if you are self isolating - please call us first so that we have it ready for you.

We appreciate that we aren't getting to chat to parents as much as we usually do in the morning and afternoon due to the requirement for parents not to congregate at the school gate. If you have a message for your class teacher please pop it into an envelope in your child's bag or send an email to [admin@littleham.devon.sch.uk](mailto:admin@littleham.devon.sch.uk). If you would like a teacher to give you a call to discuss a more in depth issue then please also email the admin email address with a brief description of the matter to be discussed and who you need to talk to. We will arrange a call back.

As we move into Autumn we have already noticed that lots of children are suffering from colds and coughs. Obviously, this year we have to be extra careful. However, we do still want your child's attendance to be as close to 100% as possible.

If your child has a mild illness that you would normally send them to school with e.g. mild cold then, providing they don't have the key Covid-19 symptoms, you should send your child to school.

**Your child should not come to school if he/she is suffering from:**

 - a new continuous cough

 - a fever (high temperature over 38 degrees C using a thermometer)

 - a complete loss of change of smell or taste

If they have these symptoms your child should have a Covid test and the whole household should self isolate.

We have put together a flow chart to help you which can be found overleaf:

As you have probably seen on the news accessing a test is currently difficult. You should first try to book a test on the [government website](https://www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test) or by calling 119.

If you are unable to book a local testing slot then you should complete the appropriate forms below: A copy of this letter will be placed on the school website so that you can use the links if necessary.

·   Children under the age of 5: [Urgent Referral Form - Under 5's](https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=Vx4YeeBlO0ye_XOpZ_zYAvBBzAKZ-dRCmu2Zgf_BJcVUQUVDM1VQTjlOWU1UTTNZV04zV1pLUzE5SiQlQCN0PWcu)

·   School aged Children (5-18): [School Aged Children](https://bit.ly/2VqU4Ue)

·   NHS/Health/Care workers: [NHS/Health/Care Professionals](https://bit.ly/3aJNixU)

·   All other individuals: [Urgent Referral Form - Adults](https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=Vx4YeeBlO0ye_XOpZ_zYAvBBzAKZ-dRCmu2Zgf_BJcVUQUVDM1VQTjlOWU1UTTNZV04zV1pLUzE5SiQlQCN0PWcu)

If you still can't access a test please contact school and we will support you further.

Thank you for all your support over the past few difficult months. Please don't hesitate to contact us if you have any queries or concerns.

With very best wishes

Katie Gray

Executive Headteacher

Keep your child off school and at home.

Speak to 119 or go to the [www.gov.uk/coronavirus](http://www.gov.uk/coronavirus) website and arrange for a self test to be done.

If you’re unable to book a local testing slot then you should complete the appropriate forms by following the links below:

* Children under the age of 5: [Urgent Referral Form - Under 5's](https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=Vx4YeeBlO0ye_XOpZ_zYAvBBzAKZ-dRCmu2Zgf_BJcVUQUVDM1VQTjlOWU1UTTNZV04zV1pLUzE5SiQlQCN0PWcu)
* School aged Children (5-18): [School Aged Children](https://bit.ly/2VqU4Ue)

Your child and your household must self isolate until you have the result of the test.

**Yes**

Speak to their specialist team about testing criteria if you haven’t already seen or spoken to them or had a letter in the post telling you when to worry.

Children who are otherwise well with

* Runny noses
* Sore throats without a fever
* Mild colds

Can go to school AS NORMAL.

**No**

Keep your child off school

Do they have:

1. A new continuous cough?
2. A fever (high temperature over 38°C using a thermometer)?
3. A complete loss or change of smell or taste?

**No**

Does your child have an underlying chronic medical condition such as cystic fibrosis?

**Would you have kept your child off school before Covid?**

**Yes**

**No**

**Yes**