

Dear Parents / Carers,

2.10.20:

Tutor Contact Week

I hope that this week you have been able to talk to your child's tutor so that we can share together how they have settled back into the new term and any support we can give to them. Thank you for all the positive comments that we have received, particularly the number of parents that feel that the work given during the lockdown period has helped them to keep up and not go backwards in their learning. We do also recognise that whilst some students have bounced back to school, others have taken longer to get back into the routine.

Clubs and Extracurricular activities

All our clubs are now running after school, albeit, with slight changes due to Covid restrictions. Taking part in additional after school activities that students choose and enjoy really supports their social skills and also their emotional well-being. Please have a look at the [opportunities here](#) and encourage your child to take part in at least one activity a week. Participation can contribute to reward badges, as well as towards the Duke Of Edinburgh Award scheme.

Covid-19

During a whole school virtual assembly last week we shared with students the 3 scenarios regarding school absence due to Covid-19. These are as follows:

Individual Self-isolation.

If a student is absent from school due to self-isolation there is work set already on our website for them to follow (if they are well enough). Follow the 'Covid' link on the top bar of our website. They need their Knowledge Organiser which they carry each day. They can still complete their homework whilst absent as well.

Partial School Closure

If we have to send home a whole year group for 14 days isolation, then we would want the students to follow the timetable below, which has a mixture of 'live lessons' and independent study lessons. They will need to attend the lessons as per their current timetable for the Live Lessons, and therefore need access to the googlemeet via the internet.

| Year Group | Proposed Learning |
|----------------|--|
| Year 12, 13 | Live lesson - follow timetable |
| Year 9, 10, 11 | Live lesson - follow timetable Independent Study Lesson - Opportunity to self quiz PE - 20 minute (Joe Wicks/PE's own) |
| Year 7 and 8 | Live lessons - English/Maths/Science/French/Geography/History Google Classroom - The rest Independent Study Lesson - Opportunity to self quiz PE - 20 minute (Joe Wicks/PE's own) |

Whole School Lockdown

If we have a full school lockdown as we did in the summer term we will follow a timetable where students will have 'live lessons' in the morning and independent learning in the afternoon. Again each child will need to access these live lessons and the 'google classroom'. In preparation all students have been added to the 'classroom' by the teachers, and Year 7 & 8 have been taught how to access it in their ICT lessons this term. Again the full timetable and links will be on our website 'Covid' page.

Given the use of 'live lessons' during the day we need to survey students' access to devices to use 'googlemeet' and the 'google classroom', so please complete the following survey which will ask you about access for EACH of your children. This will help us make alternative arrangements for students. [Student Device Access Survey](#).

Self-isolation - students responsibility

We have shared the following advice with ALL students if they are off school self-isolating:

You must self isolate for 14 days. That means, you MUST NOT

- *leave your family home*
- *Meet friends or family that do not live with you*
- *Meet with any other friends in town or out in the community*
- *Be near the school premises*

We will contact your parents if we hear or see that you have not followed these clear government guidelines

Your support with reinforcing this would be very much appreciated.

Also attached to this letter is the latest guidelines regarding what to do if you or your child has symptoms.

Face coverings

We have issued ALL students with a branded reusable face covering. They can continue to use their own or use the one we have provided them with. If they wish to replace a face covering we are now selling these in our school shop (80p for a branded reusable covering, 50p for a disposable face covering). Students are to wear a face covering at all times on the school premises unless they are in a lesson or eating - this includes outside in the playground.

Homework

ALL students have at least 1 hour of homework to complete each school evening. This is either using an online platform (Maths - Hegarty, English - Bedrock, Science - Tassomai) or they are self-quizzing - a technique to learn the knowledge ready for their assessments at the end of the cycle and to support their recall in lessons. The self-quizzing technique is on our website - please have a look [here](#). We have 'voluntary' homework support sessions every evening for each year group, OR if they do not complete their homework each week they will be in 'compulsory' homework sessions. It is not optional, so please do check their homework books each weekend ready for our Monday checks.

Have a lovely weekend - although it looks to be somewhat wet!

Kind regards

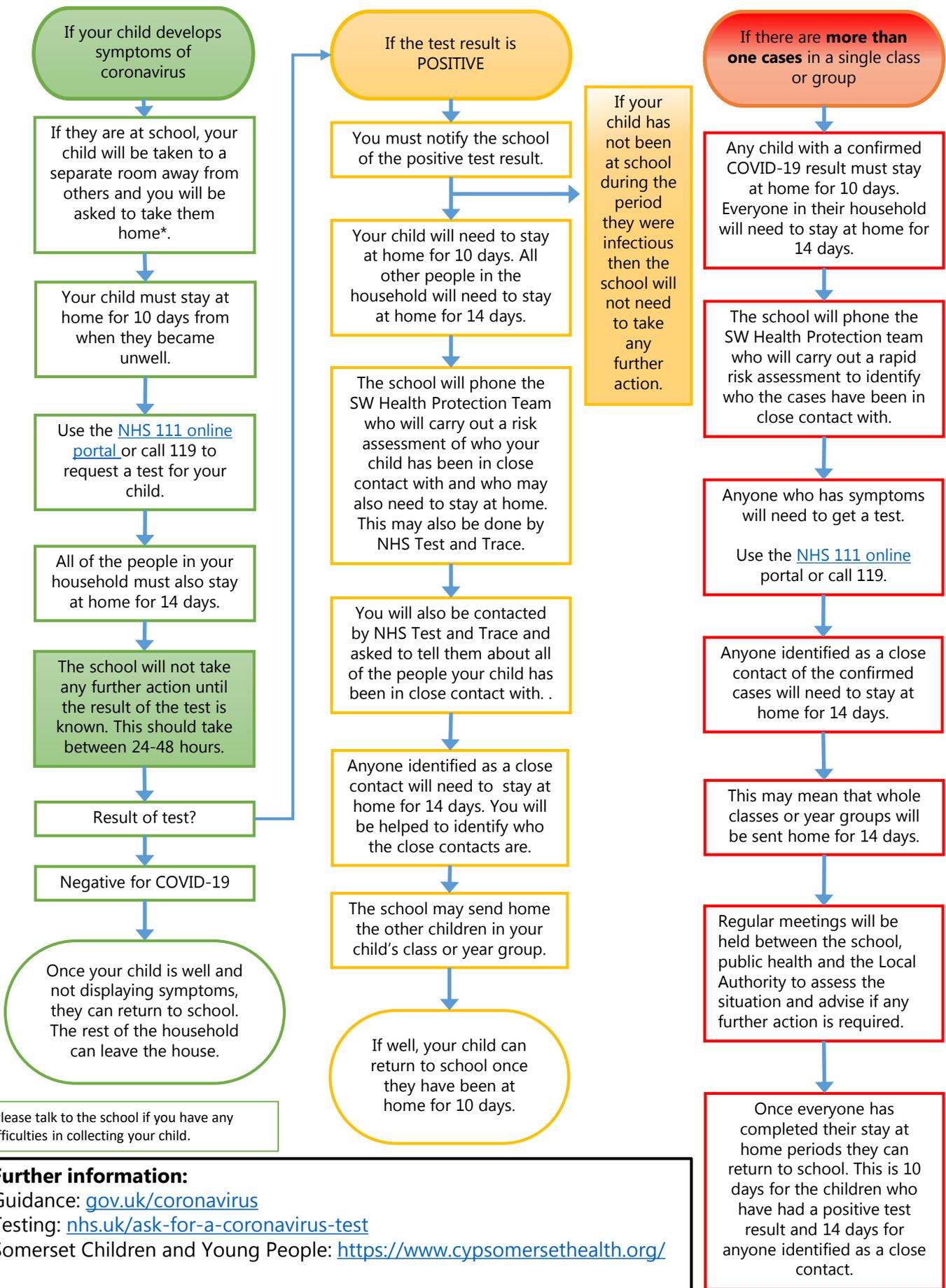


Anita Frier
Principal

Management of COVID-19 in school-age children

Actions for parents/carers

If your child has any of the symptoms of coronavirus: a high temperature, a new, continuous cough, and a loss of or change to taste or smell; do not send them to school



*Please talk to the school if you have any difficulties in collecting your child.

Further information:
 Guidance: [gov.uk/coronavirus](https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus)
 Testing: [nhs.uk/ask-for-a-coronavirus-test](https://www.nhs.uk/ask-for-a-coronavirus-test)
 Somerset Children and Young People: <https://www.cypsomersethealth.org/>