

# COVID-19 Update for Attendance Policy 2020

## Introduction

From 20<sup>th</sup> March 2020, parents were asked to keep their children at home, wherever possible and for schools to remain open only for those children of workers critical to the COVID-19 response – who absolutely need to attend. From June 15<sup>th</sup> 2020 some children returned to Brierley. From September 2020 all pupils in all year groups returned to Brierley.

## Context

From 1<sup>st</sup> June schools were asked to reopen in a phased response which later led to a full reopening in September 2020. There are multiple pieces of government guidance that recognise that younger children struggle to socially distance however they also recognise the need for schools to reopen in a manner that reduces transmission and considers the health and safety implications for all. As a response the following additions to our Attendance Policy have been made:

## Absence reporting procedure

We have added a Stop the Spread flow chart to support parents in ensuring they follow correct COVID-19 procedures. See Appendix 1

## Decisions regarding attendance or absence

We ask the parents to rethink their decision making about whether a child should attend school. **Our key and most important rule is that you must absolutely NOT send your child to school if they or any member of your household is displaying symptoms of Covid-19.** Children with symptoms, being sent to school risks us having to close a bubble and sending all the children and staff home in that bubble, leading to a return to home learning. This is our first line of defence and will be strictly adhered to. Any child presenting with Covid-19 symptoms will be taken to our designated room to be well cared for without delay where they will await the immediate arrival of a parent/carer.

For your information, recognised COVID-19 symptoms are:

- A high temperature
- A new, continuous cough, this means coughing a lot, for more than an hour or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours
- Loss of, or change in, your normal sense of smell and taste

## Collecting a sick child

We ask that parents support our decision that if we believe a child is displaying symptoms they are collected as quickly as possible from the school office and wearing a face mask.

## Equal Opportunities

Brierley Primary School has universal ambitions for every child, whatever their background or circumstances. Children learn and thrive when they are healthy, safe and engaged. In order to engage all children, cultural diversity, home languages, gender and religious beliefs are all celebrated.

Our curriculum includes a wide range of texts and other resources which represent the diversity and backgrounds of all our children. We believe in 'valuing what the child brings to school' and recognise the importance of supporting a child's first language, not only to foster self-esteem, but to assist in the learning of English.

## Appendix 1: Stop the spread

### Stop the spread

#### Step 1: Symptoms

If your child or any member of the household develops Covid-19 symptoms, they must stay at home and book a test. If a child or staff member develops symptoms at school they will be sent home immediately to book a test and isolate.



#### Step 2: Isolation

The person with symptoms stays at home for 14 days and waits for their test results. They must inform school of the results within 24 hours. If positive, the child or staff member and the rest of their household stays at home for 14 days. The rest of their bubble are sent home to isolate and receive home learning until the end of the isolation period.



#### Step 3: Negative results

Where the child or staff member tests negative, all isolation ends and anyone who was in isolation, within that bubble, returns to school and work. Proof of negative results must be provided to the school.



#### Step 5: Positive results

If the results are positive the child or staff member remains in isolation alongside their family in accordance with step 2. The rest of the bubble continues to stay in isolation for 14 days.



#### School Actions:

Public Health England will be contacted and advice will be adhered to. The rest of the school can continue as normal due to the social distancing measures. School would be closed if advised to do so by PHE. The classroom used by the bubble that is in isolation will be deep cleaned.