



EDITH CAVELL PRIMARY SCHOOL

Ambitious, Achieving and Nurturing

Manton Lane, Bedford. MK41 7NH

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<https://www.edithcavellprimary.co.uk/>

Newsletter – November 2021

A message from Miss Cooke

This term seems to be flying past. Here we are well into November with December only just around the corner. December is a very busy time in school and at home as well. In school we are hoping to make slight adjustments, but try our best to maintain as many of the usual Christmas celebrations as possible.

In the October Newsletter, I outlined that we hoped to be able to welcome parents into view Christmas performances by KS1 and LKS2. As it stands, with the most recent advice from the Director of Public Health in Bedford, we **will not** be able to welcome parents into school to view these performances. In order to not disappoint the children or parents, we plan to live stream the Christmas performances from KS1 and LKS2.

For the school to comply with GDPR regulations, good practise and advice, we will be writing to all parents in KS1 and LKS2 to request specific permission for their child to be included in the live streaming performance. Any child that we do not receive specific permission to be included, will not be able to be part of the performance. Please look out for this permission

I have this week received updated advice from the Director of Public Health for Bedford, who has advised that current Covid measures introduced after half term, remain in place.

“Although we have seen some reductions in the case rates since half term, the rates of infection among children and young people remain high and continue to cause educational disruption.

I therefore advise that all additional measures remain in place.

I strongly advised that students in Year 3 and above and staff who are household contacts of a positive case and are exempt from isolation (because they are under 18 or are fully vaccinated) should take a daily lateral flow test for 7 days and should only attend their setting if their lateral flow test is negative. This advice remains in place and I would also encourage families with younger children (i.e. below Year 3) to follow this advice if they feel able to do so, to help prevent onward transmission within their setting.”

To this end, I must ask that parents endeavour to wear a face covering while on the school site. I know that this is not required by law and is a voluntary action, but if we want to ensure that levels of infection remain low at Edith Cavell, so that children can stay in school, I would ask that all parents wear a face covering on the school site.

I have attached the most up to date Covid 19 flow chart from Bedford Borough for your reference.

If we all remain vigilant and cautious we can work together to keep the spread of the virus down.

Miss Cooke

Christmas Dinner

School Christmas dinner will take place on **Friday 10th December 2021**. All children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 will be provided with a choice from the Christmas Dinner menu on Friday 10th December. Parents may send a packed lunch if they do not wish their child to have a Christmas dinner.



The cost of school dinners is **£2.22 for Year 3/4s** and **£2.32 for Year 5/6s**. Please ensure that payment is made on ParentPay in advance. Please use this link to the Google form to show if your child will be having Christmas dinner. **This google form needs to be completed by Friday 26th November.** <https://forms.gle/pXs5vvj4poz8azqm9>

As Christmas Dinner day will be taking place on our Friday fish and chips day on Friday 10th December, we will be having fish and chips Day on **Wednesday 8th December**. So, if you would like your child to have a fish and chips lunch on Wednesday please ensure that payment is made.

Flu Vaccine

We have been advised by the school immunisation team that they have changed the date that they will be in school to undertake the vaccine schedule.

The school immunisation team will be in school on **Monday 29th November 2021** to administer vaccines to the children whose parents have given permission for this to happen.

Parents can give permission for their child to have the vaccine up until 5pm on Monday 22nd November 2021. The letter that has been emailed out to parents, outlines that there is an alternative to the main vaccine that contains gelatine. When parents wishing to take up this option, complete the on line permission form, please do not be put off by the information at the top of the form saying

"Note: The nasal vaccine contains porcine gelatine. There is no suitable alternative vaccine available for otherwise healthy children."

I asked for clarification from the School nurses and this is their response.

There is the option to choose the nasal spray or injection this year. You need to fill out all the compulsory fields on the form and it then opens up more options as you go through it. Once they get to the question asking if they consent yes or no there will be the option to tick nasal spray or injection underneath.

No pens Wednesday – Wednesday 24th November 2021

No Pens Day Wednesday is an annual day of spoken language activities that takes place in schools, colleges and early years' settings across the country. Spoken language skills (sometimes called **oracy**) are fundamental for learning to read and write, managing emotions, developing friendships and entering employment.

In school, we will be putting out pens, pencils, writing and drawing implements away for the day and focusing on learning through developing and using our language.



**No Pens Day
Wednesday**

Eligibility to Free School Meals. (FSM)

We are very aware that some families may be facing changing financial circumstances due to the Coronavirus outbreak. If, through change of circumstances, you feel your child may have become eligible for free school meals, we would urge you to consider applying for this benefit. Details of those who may now be eligible for FSM can see eligibility criteria on the school web site at

<https://www.edithcavellprimary.co.uk/free-school-meals/>

An application for free school meals can be made at

https://bedford-self.achieveservice.com/service/Free_School_Meals.

If any family are eligible, even for a short time, the school will receive financial support for six years, so any applications that are successful will support you and the school.



Annual Survey



Our annual survey is now available to complete (please click on link below).

We need as many parent carers as possible to give us their views to ensure we get an accurate picture of the 'lived experiences' of SEND families in our community.

All of the feedback collected will be fed into the SEND Improvement Board at the Local Authority and will form the basis of our State of the Nation report to be published at a later date.

You can enter a draw to win £50 Love Bedford Vouchers when you complete the survey. It should only take you a maximum of 10 minutes to complete.

Survey can be accessed at - <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/BBPCFAnnualSurvey2021>

This survey is open until the 30th November 2021

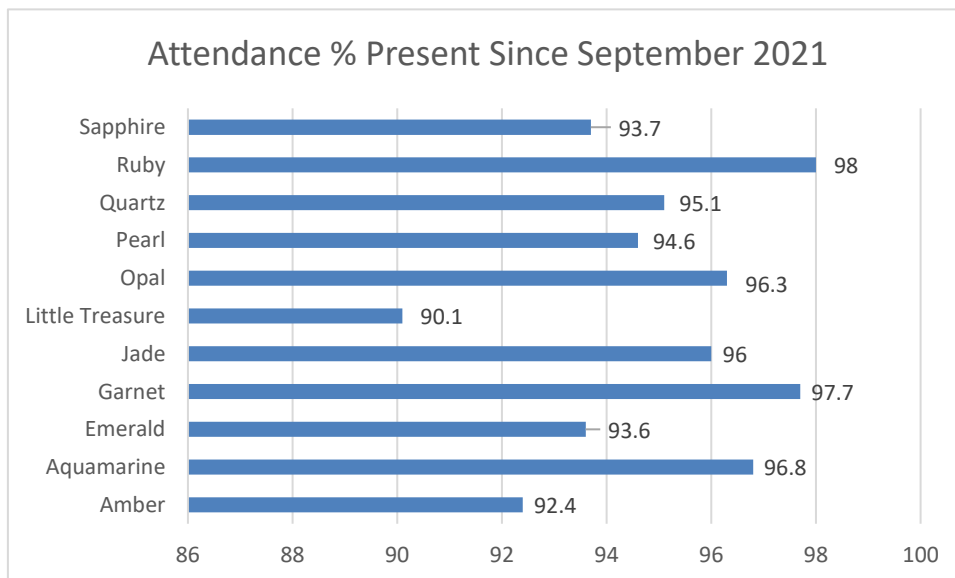
Attendance

Each week in school we award the 'Attendance Bear' to the class that has had the best attendance in the school. The children enjoy having Attendance Bear in their classroom for the week and eagerly await the results each week. Please help your child's class earn the privilege of looking after Attendance Bear for the week by ensuring that your child attends school every day.



The winners of Attendance Bear in November have been

| | |
|---|-------------------------|
| 1 st - 5 th Nov | Sapphire Class |
| 8 th - 12 th Nov | Ruby and Sapphire Class |
| 15 th - 19 th Oct | Opal Class |



Stars of the Week October 2021

Amber

Pearl

Khairi
Antonio
Steffan
Jesse

Emerald

Meggie
Sean
Tatyana
Freddie

Jade

Denis
Adelina
Miller
Roman

Opal

Phoebe
Mia-Rose
Ruby
Sebastian

Ruby

Esmæ
Mikolaj
Macey
Isadora

Garnet

Amber
Ayesha
Shazad
Garnet Class

Quartz

Kajtek
Dyllan
Rares
Kristo

Aquamarine

Alveena
Emaan
Jhene
Eden

Sapphire

Michelle
Sheila
Przemyslaw

Steps you can take to help keep your child safer online

Parental controls: Parental controls have been designed to help you manage your child's online activities. There are various types, some of which are free but others which can be bought. However, nothing is totally fool proof so they shouldn't replace the need for you to support and advise your child using the internet. For more information and step by step instructions on setting up parental controls, visit [Parental Controls & Privacy Settings Guides - Internet Matters](#).

Supervise their online activity: Keep the devices your child uses in communal areas of the house such as the living room or kitchen, where an adult is able to supervise. Primary-age children should not access the internet in private spaces alone, such as in a bedroom or bathroom.

Explore together and chat little and often: Ask your child to show you their favourite apps, games and sites and encourage them to teach you how to use these. Ask them if anything ever worries them online. Make sure they know they won't be in trouble and can get help by talking to you or another adult they trust if anything happens online that makes them feel worried, sad or scared.

Make sure they know where to go for support: Remind your child they can always speak to you or an adult they trust if anything happens online that makes them feel worried or upset. For a breakdown of report services, visit: [Supporting your child with reporting unwanted content online](#)

Take a look at Thinkuknow: Thinkuknow is the national online safety education programme from the National Crime Agency. Thinkuknow offers learning activities, advice and support for children and young people aged 4-18 and their families. The [Jessie & Friends animations](#) for 4 to 7s will help you start a conversation about online safety and for 8-10's, there's the [Play Like Share animations](#) and the [Band Runner game and advice website](#) .

Help your child identify trusted adults who can help them if they are worried: This includes you and other adults at home, as well as adults from wider family, school or other support services who they are able to contact at this time. Encourage them to draw a picture or write a list of their trusted adults.

Talk about how their online actions affect others: If your child is engaging with others online, remind them to consider how someone else might feel before they post or share something. If they are considering sharing a photo/video of somebody else, they should always ask permission first.

Use 'SafeSearch': Most web search engines will have a 'SafeSearch' function, which will allow you to limit the content your child can access whilst online. Look out for the 'Settings' button on your web browser homepage, which is often shaped like a small cog

Dates for your Diary

November

| | |
|----------------------|----------------------------|
| Wed 24 th | No Pens Day |
| Fri 26 th | Bike ability – L1 – Y3 & 4 |
| Mon 29 th | Flu Vaccinations |

December

| | |
|----------------------|--|
| Mon 6 th | Theatre of Widdershins |
| | Last UKS2 swimming |
| Tue 7 th | Last Gym |
| Wed 8 th | Virtual KS1 Performance to parents – 2pm |
| Thur 9 th | Virtual KS1 Performance to parents – 9.30am |
| Fri 10 th | Christmas Jumper Day |
| | Christmas Dinner |
| Tue 14 th | Virtual LKS2 performance to parents – 2pm |
| Wed 15 th | Virtual LKS2 performance to parents – 9.30am |
| Fri 17 th | Last Day of Term |

2022

January

| | |
|---------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Wed 5 th | First day back at school for children |
|---------------------|---------------------------------------|

Academic Year 2021 – 2022

Autumn Term 2021

Training Days – Thursday 2nd and Friday 3rd September 2021
Children return - **Monday 6th September 2021**
Half term: Monday 25th October - Friday 29th October 2021
Children return – **Monday 1st November 2021**
Term Ends: Friday 17th December 2021

Spring Term 2022

Training Day – Tuesday 4th January 2022
Children return - **Wednesday 5th January 2022**
Half Term: Monday 14th February – Friday 18th February 2022
Children return – **Monday 21st February 2022**
Term Ends: Friday 1st April 2022

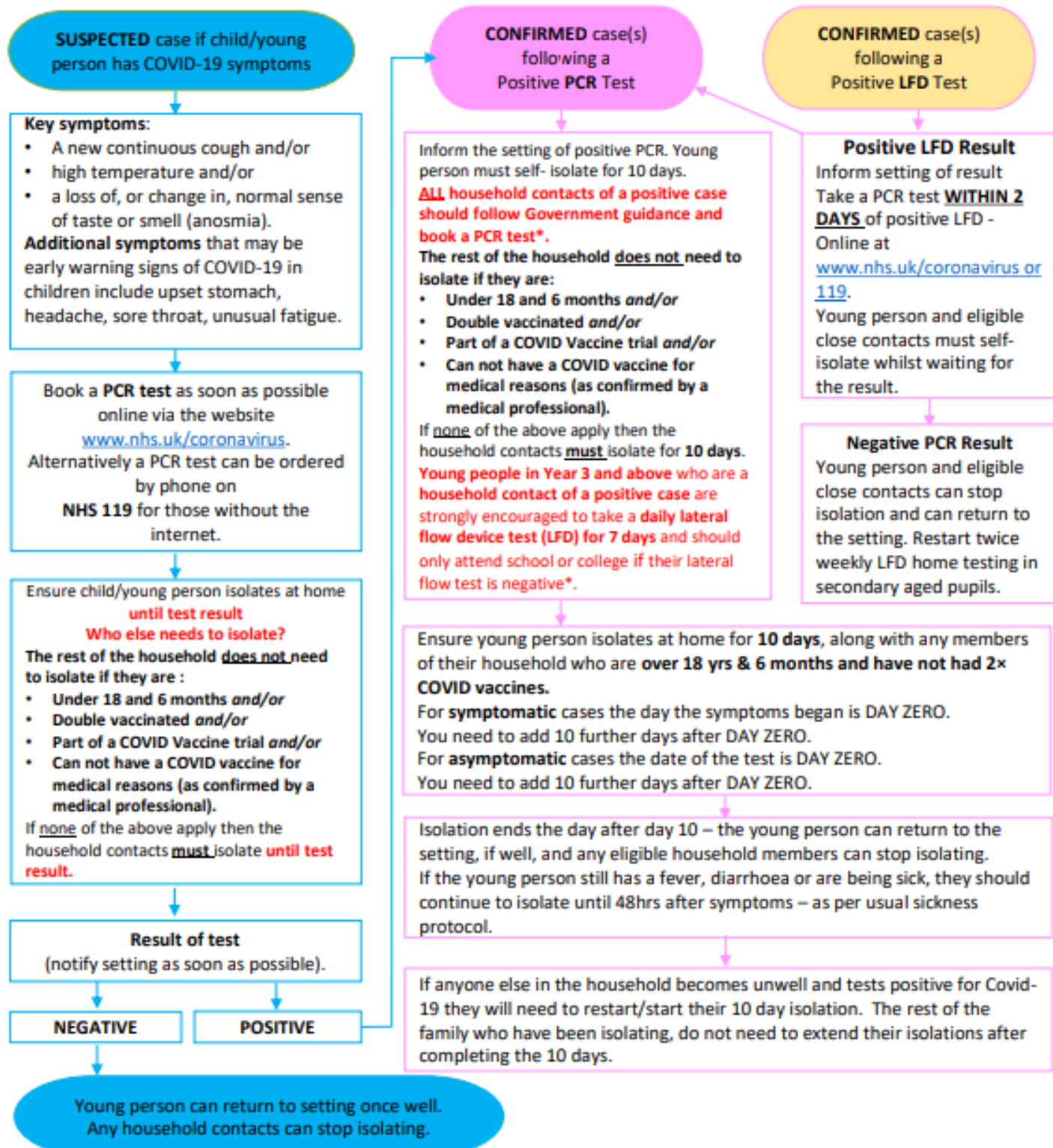
Summer Term 2022

Training Day – Tuesday 19th April 2022
Children return – **Wednesday 20th April 2022**
May Day – Monday 2nd May 2022
Half Term: Monday 30th May – Friday 3rd June 2022
Children return – **Monday 6th June 2022**
Term Ends: Friday 22nd July 2022

Please take note of
Edith Cavell term
dates – Local
schools may have
different term dates.

COVID-19 Guidance for Parents/Carers in Bedford Borough Education Settings From 1st Nov 2021

For any **SUSPECTED** or **CONFIRMED** case of COVID-19 in a young person please follow the flow chart below.



- Mask should be worn by young people in Year 7 and above (Year 5 and above in Middle Schools) in all communal areas outside the classroom, and on school and public transport.
- *If you have recently (within 90 days) had a positive PCR test for COVID-19 you are exempt from testing by both PCR and LFD within 90 days of a positive PCR test result, unless you develop new symptoms.
- LFD tests are used for identifying Covid-19 infection where there are no symptoms and should **not** be used if you have any symptoms.
- If you have had a COVID-19 vaccination you should still take part in the LFD testing as you may still transmit the virus.