

# STEDHAM PRIMARY SCHOOL

School Lane, Stedham  
Midhurst, West Sussex, GU29 0NY

Telephone (01730) 813522  
e-mail: [office@stedham.w-sussex.sch.uk](mailto:office@stedham.w-sussex.sch.uk)  
[www.stedham.w-sussex.sch.uk](http://www.stedham.w-sussex.sch.uk)



Headteacher  
Mr Malcolm Meaby

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30<sup>th</sup> November 2021

Dear Parents/Carers

We made a difficult decision to shut down Hedgehogs class this morning which also extended to siblings in other classes. This was only a temporary measure to establish how many positive cases we had and to get further advice. We have forwarded work to Hedgehogs and Foxes class to keep them busy and engaged with their learning.

We continue to follow our strict hygiene measures at school in line with our risk assessment and would remind you to do the same – **Remember: Hands. Face. Space. Fresh Air.**

I wanted to keep you fully informed concerning positive PCR results within the school community. I can confirm that we now have 7 positive PCR cases reported to us – five in Hedgehogs and 2 in Foxes. We have a further 4 children who are awaiting results from their PCR test. These numbers have escalated significantly following the weekend. Following Public Health England's guidance, the pupils concerned remain at home self-isolating for the next ten days. Guidance indicates if there are 5 or more cases in any one class, then the rest of the pupils in that class are recommended to have a Lateral Flow or PCR test. Please be vigilant and remember the following:

- **Your child should still attend school while awaiting PCR result unless they have any Covid symptoms** following national guidance: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/guidance-for-contacts-of-people-with-possible-or-confirmed-coronavirus-COVID-19-infection-who-do-not-live-with-the-person>. If your child has had a positive PCR test within the last 90 days, you do not need to get another test unless they have new symptoms. It is recommended that your child limits contact with clinically extremely vulnerable people for ten days after contact with a confirmed case of covid-19 and follow the actions in the section "How to stop coronavirus (COVID-19) spreading".
- If your child tests positive they need to isolate following national guidance COVID-19: guidance for households with possible coronavirus infection - GOV.UK ([www.gov.uk](http://www.gov.uk)). If they test negative, they can continue attending school.
- All members of the household aged 11 and over should continue to do their regular LFD test twice a week (every 3 to 4 days).



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- Anyone with symptoms should get a PCR test as soon as possible and isolate <https://www.nhs.uk/ask-for-a-coronavirus-test>.
- You may be eligible for a support payment if you are caring for a child who has to self-isolate as a close contact or have to self-isolate yourself as a case or a close contact. Please see: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/test-and-trace-support-payment-scheme-claiming-financial-support/claiming-financial-support-under-the-test-and-trace-support-payment-scheme> for more information.
- Please also inform any setting (eg cubs and sports clubs) attended within 2 days of symptom onset or date of test of the positive result if asymptomatic.

Please ensure the result of your child's PCR test is forwarded to myself to [head@stedham.w-sussex.sch.uk](mailto:head@stedham.w-sussex.sch.uk) and to [office@stedham.w-sussex.sch.uk](mailto:office@stedham.w-sussex.sch.uk) as soon as possible.

I would like to maintain transparent with our families with regards Covid in school and will of course advise parents of any further cases and any needed action.

I will be forwarding a further letter from West Sussex that offers guidance regarding Covid-19.

#### **When can Hedgehogs pupils and their siblings return to school?**

**Please read the guidance given in bullet points above. If your child is not showing any Covid symptoms and has not been in close contact\* with a confirmed case of Covid-19, they may return to school.**

*\*A contact can be: anyone that lives in the same household, face to face contact within one metre (including being coughed on or having a face to face conversation), travelled in the same vehicle, been within one metre for one minute or longer without face to face contact.*

Thank you for your continued support in helping us ensure the school remains open and everyone is kept as safe as possible over the coming weeks.

Kindest regards



Malcolm Meaby

