



Knowsley Council

9th October 2020

Dear Parents/Carers

As you will know, Knowsley continues to experience a significant increase in COVID-19 confirmed cases and we have widespread community transmission.

You will also be aware that the Government imposed restrictions across the Liverpool City Region (Halton, Knowsley, Liverpool, St Helens, Sefton and Wirral) from Tuesday 22 September, with further restrictions also being imposed from Saturday 3 October to try and limit the spread of the virus. The restrictions are:-

- Residents must not socialise in any indoor setting with people from outside of their own household or support bubble.
- Residents must not socialise with other people outside of their own households or support bubble in private homes and gardens.
- You cannot meet up outdoors with any more than six people in total and this is limited to no more than two households.
- Hospitality for food and drink will be restricted to table service only.
- Late night operating hours will be restricted, with leisure and entertainment venues including restaurants, pubs and cinemas required to close between 10pm and 5am.
- Only to use public transport for essential purposes, such as travelling to school or work.
- Avoid attending amateur and semi-professional sporting events as spectators.
- You must wear a face covering (unless exempt) in shops, on public transport, in hospital settings, retail and hospitality premises and in taxis.

As part of the council's action plan to address the current situation, the following further precautionary measures were introduced for schools: -

- Stay at home if your child has symptoms and book a test through <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/> or by ringing 119. Stay at home until you receive your test result.
- Ensure you and your child self-isolates if you have symptoms of COVID-19. If you have symptoms, self-isolation is ten days from the onset of symptoms and it's 14 days if you've been in close contact with someone who has tested positive.
- All adults to wear a face covering when entering the school premises (unless exempt).
- One adult to enter the premises for drop off and pick up only.
- Arrive and leave promptly when dropping off / collecting your child – please do not congregate as we know that the virus is easily transmitted from person to person.
- Face coverings to be worn by secondary school pupils, staff and visitors when moving around indoors such as in corridors and communal areas where social distancing is difficult to maintain.
- Those working in classrooms were asked to wear visors or masks when teaching.

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It is pleasing that many of you have responded positively to these measures, recognising the important contribution we all have to make to keep ourselves and those around us safe.

However, we are receiving reports of a number of parents/carers arriving at school without a mask. This measure is for everyone's safety – yours, your child's and those around you.

Unfortunately, we are also receiving reports that some parents/carers have been verbally abusive to school based staff when reminded that the wearing of masks on school premises is required. Such abuse will not be tolerated.

Schools are working hard to keep communities safe and well, they are implementing Government guidance in managing the pandemic and it is important that all members of the community support them in this work.

Given how quickly COVID-19 is spreading in our communities, I would ask that everyone plays their part in stopping the spread of the virus. This includes everyone wearing a face covering when dropping off / picking up and staying at home if you have the following symptoms:

- High temperature
- New or persistent cough
- Loss of taste or smell

I hope I can rely on your support and follow the advice to not only protect yourself, but also those around you.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "J. Albertina". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Jill Albertina
Assistant Executive Director (Education & Early Help)