



Newsletter 10 – January 2021

Our value this term is Creativity

Creativity is something we really enjoy at Southrop School and there has been plenty of it on display from the school community as we have been getting used to our new arrangements this term, in lockdown again. Thank you to all of you for support and adaptability.

Covid-19 Lockdown Arrangements

It has been an extraordinary week with the school needing to put in place lockdown arrangements to teach vulnerable and critical worker's children in school and all other pupils remotely, in the space of just 12 hours. Thank you to all our staff who have worked so hard to make this possible.

We love having the children in school, but at the moment we have 5 teaching staff working at home and 6 working on site, with only Miss Davies and Mrs McLellan working full-time. School should only be open for vulnerable pupils and the children of those whose work is "critical to the coronavirus (COVID-19) and EU transition response", as stated in the government definition of critical workers. If it is possible for families with one critical worker to keep your children at home, could you please do so. We owe a duty of care to our staff and pupils to minimise the risk, by keeping the numbers on site to the minimum.

Those dropping off and collecting pupils at school, please wear face masks. It is also very important for everyone to be following strict hygiene and cleaning routines. Please can we ask that the children come into school each day in clean clothes. Children will wash their hands as soon as they come to school and just before they come home, but we do recommend that they wash their hands again when getting home and change out of the clothes they have been wearing in school.

The new advice for educational establishments during lockdown can be found at the government website: <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/guidance-for-schools-coronavirus-covid-19>

If you have any concerns or questions about the new arrangements in school please contact Mrs Simmons (admin@southrop.gloucs.sch.uk), Miss Davies or Mrs McLellan (head@southrop.gloucs.sch.uk)

All staff will be aware of emails coming in during the evenings and over the weekend during term time. If you need support please contact them in this way and they will get back to you when they can.

Diary Dates



12th Feb - End of Term 3



Important information about Miss Belcher

Unfortunately we heard today that Miss Belcher tested positive for Covid-19, but she is feeling well. She was in school in the 48 hour period prior to her symptoms appearing. We sought advice from Public Health England, who assure us that because she had a barrier in place to remain more than 2 metres away from the children, was wearing a mask and the room was well ventilated we do not need to close. This means that on-line PE lessons will not be taking place until she returns. Please get in contact if you have any concerns.

Home Learning

We are trying our very best to get everyone involved on Teams in Maths, English and storytime each day, and PE twice a week, once Miss Belcher is back. The children and staff in school have really enjoyed seeing and working with you on-line this week. There have been some teething problems which we have been sorting, but this wasn't helped by UK-wide problems with Sky broadband which affected some of our staff working from home. Please try to join as many lessons for your year group as you can, but if it is sometimes not possible, then work independently at home using the planning and resources you have been sent. Please keep in contact with us to let us know how it is going and if you need any help.

Homework and Home Learning will be sent out through the portal. In order that we can send it out quickly, we hand it out by year group. This means you may be sent the home learning even though your child is in school. If this happens, please disregard the work. Just keep a sharp eye out for that marked HOMEWORK, which is for everybody.

Isolating Please make sure you are aware of the rules for yourself and your children when isolating at <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-stay-at-home-guidance/stay-at-home-guidance-for-households-with-possible-coronavirus-covid-19-infection> Please note that the advice on isolating for those who have been in close contact with someone who has tested positive for Covid-19 has changed since 14th December from 14 days to 10 days.

How long to self-isolate

If you have symptoms or have tested positive for coronavirus, you'll usually need to self-isolate for at least **10 days**.

You'll usually need to self-isolate for 10 days if:

- someone you live with has symptoms or tested positive
- someone in your support bubble has symptoms or tested positive
- you've been told to self-isolate by NHS Test and Trace

If you have COVID-19 symptoms or have received a positive test result

Stay at home and begin to self-isolate for 10 days from when your symptoms start. Arrange to have a test for COVID-19 if you have not already had one. The result of the test will determine how long you must stay at home and self-isolate.

Stay at home while you are waiting for a home test kit or a test site appointment.

A positive test result means you must complete a 10-day isolation period.

If your test is negative, you can stop self-isolating as long as you are well.



If you do not have symptoms but have tested positive for COVID-19, stay at home and self-isolate for 10 days from the day the test was taken. If you develop symptoms after your test, restart your 10-day isolation period from the day the symptoms start.

Stay as far away from other members of your household as possible, especially if they are clinically extremely vulnerable. Avoid using shared spaces such as kitchens and other living areas while others are present and take your meals back to your room to eat.

You could be fined if you do not stay at home and self-isolate following a positive test result for COVID-19 and you are notified by NHS Test and Trace that you need to self-isolate.

Do not invite or allow social visitors to enter your home, including friends and family. If you want to speak to someone who is not a member of your household, use the phone, email or social media.

PTA

Due to the lockdown, the school milk and fruit deliveries have ceased. Thank you to the PTA who have put in place arrangements to continue deliveries of these items.

What happens if anyone shows Covid- 19 symptoms?

We will be following Gloucestershire County Council protocol. Please see below.

- If anyone (pupil or member of staff) develops Covid-19 symptoms in an education setting they must be sent home and advised to follow the staying at home guidance.
- If a child is awaiting collection, they should be moved, if possible, to a room where they can be isolated behind a closed door, depending on the age of the child and with appropriate adult supervision if required. Ideally, a window should be opened for ventilation. If it is not possible to isolate them, move them to an area which is at least 2 metres away from other people.
- If they need to go to the bathroom while waiting to be collected, they should use a separate bathroom if possible. The bathroom should be cleaned and disinfected using standard cleaning products before being used by anyone else.
- PPE should be worn by staff caring for the child while they await collection if a distance of 2 metres cannot be maintained (such as for a very young child or a child with complex needs).
- In an emergency, call 999 if they are seriously ill or injured or their life is at risk. Do not visit the GP, pharmacy, urgent care centre or a hospital.
- If a member of staff has helped someone who was taken unwell with coronavirus (COVID-19) symptoms, they do not need to go home unless they develop symptoms themselves. They should wash their hands thoroughly for 20 seconds after any contact with someone who is unwell. Cleaning the area with normal household disinfectant after someone with symptoms has left will reduce the risk of passing the infection on to other people.
- In addition, if the school receives information that the member of staff/pupil subsequently tests positive for Covid-19 symptoms, that bubble must self-isolate as prescribed at the time by the NHS/PHE. The rest of the school population can remain in school. It is understood that under-5s can be tested for symptoms.



Measures to give additional reassurance

If a child or member of staff has symptoms we will inform parents in that bubble. The child and their siblings will stay at home and seek a test. A member of staff who displays symptoms will do the same. If the test comes back positive, we will inform all members of the bubble and close it 14 days. If the sibling is showing any symptoms we will then inform their bubble and likewise, if they test positive, that bubble will be shut for 14 days. If the test result is negative the child, sibling or staff member can return the next day.

We would also like to remind you that you have a responsibility to the school and wider community to follow NHS/Public Health England advice on measures implemented to manage the Covid-19 situation.

The main symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19) are usually mild, but some people can become very unwell.

- High temperature - this means you feel hot to touch on your chest or back (you do not need to measure your temperature)
- New, continuous cough - this means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours (if you usually have a cough, it may be worse than usual)
- Loss or change to your sense of smell or taste - this means you've noticed you cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal

Most people with coronavirus have at least one of these symptoms.

If you have these symptoms you are able to seek testing.

You can ask for a test:

- for yourself, if you have coronavirus symptoms now (a high temperature, a new, continuous cough, or a loss or change to your sense of smell or taste)
- for someone you live with, if they have coronavirus symptoms

You need to get the test done in the first 5 days of having symptoms.

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/testing-for-coronavirus/ask-for-a-test-to-check-if-you-have-coronavirus/>

Adhering to Government Guidance

Please adhere to the latest government guidance on socialising and avoiding infection, which can be found at: <https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus>

Please be mindful that your actions will have an impact on other families and staff members, some of whom have family members who are particularly vulnerable to infection.

Hand washing

Children should wash their hands for at least 20 seconds lots of times every day, using soap and warm water and dry them well afterwards, including:

- when they arrive at school
- after they have been to the toilet
- after break time
- before and after lunch
- after touching pets
- when they have blown their nose
- if they have touched their face



- before they leave school

Coughing and Sneezing

Sneeze or cough into a tissue or the crook of your arm. If you have used a tissue then bin it – Catch it! Bin it! Kill it! Please send your child into school with an individual pocket sized pack of tissues.

Kind Regards

Julia McLellan

Mrs J McLellan

Co-Head Teachers

Megan Davies

Miss M Davies