

Dear Parents/Carers,

Thank you for your continued patience and co-operation with our school's Covid strategy. Revised guidance for schools was published yesterday in line with the new national restrictions (see [LINK](#)). In line with this guidance, we will continue to adhere to our current system of control measures that can be grouped into 'prevention' and 'response to infection'.

**Prevention:**

- 1) anyone displaying COVID-19 symptoms must stay at home
- 2) *clean hands thoroughly and more often than usual*
- 3) *ensure good respiratory hygiene by promoting the 'catch it, bin it, kill it' approach*
- 4) *continue with enhanced cleaning, including cleaning frequently touched surfaces often*
- 5) *minimise contact between individuals and maintain social distancing wherever possible*
- 6) *where necessary, wear appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE) i.e. where an individual child or young person becomes ill with coronavirus (COVID-19) symptoms while at schools, and only then if a distance of 2 metres cannot be maintained.*

**Response to any infection:**

- 7) *engage with the NHS Test and Trace process*
- 8) *manage confirmed cases of coronavirus (COVID-19) amongst the school community*
- 9) *contain any outbreak by following local health protection team advice*

As we have shared previously, we strive for a calm and common sense approach that adheres to national guidance, and takes into account our school context. Therefore, staff will not be wearing face coverings when in the classroom, but are encouraged to do so in communal areas (such as reception and when moving about the staff kitchen). The guidance states that face coverings should be worn by children from Class 6 (Y7) upwards when in corridors or in indoor communal spaces where social distancing cannot be maintained and bubbles would be compromised. Within our context this situation does not arise and therefore **our pupils will not be required to wear face coverings in school**, though they are welcome to do so if they wish.

Our Woodland Parent and Baby/Child Groups will continue to run, providing support to parents of young children. Late Afternoon Kindergarten Provision and After School Clubs will also go ahead so as to provide childcare allowing parents to work. The [guidance around childcare](#) also states that parents are able to form a childcare bubble with one other household for the purposes of informal childcare, where the child is 13 or under, and that some households will also be able to benefit from being in a [support bubble](#), which allows single adult households to join another household. It would be really helpful if you could let the school know (by emailing reception) about any support bubble arrangements. Thank you. There is also updated guidance around [travel](#).

Thank you for your ongoing support and patience with drop off and pick up. Please do continue to take care to maintain distance, and line up in the car park when collecting your children, wearing a face covering if you wish to do so.

Kindergarten parents, please exit via the gate in the hedge to help clear the collection area as quickly as possible. If you are collecting your children using a bike/cargo bike, please park up away from the school building. We are working towards creating a designated space where cargo bikes could be parked, just on the right as you enter the main car park.

Please remember to arrive on time and head straight off once you have collected your child(ren). Only one parent/carer should enter the car park to collect/drop off their child(ren).

#### Lower School

Drop off: 8:15-8:25am

Pick Up: 3pm

#### Kindergarten (wooden gate)

Rosebud and Elderflower - drop off: 8:20-8:30am and pick up at 3pm

Buttercups: drop off 8:30am and pick up 3pm

Please remember, if your child is unwell, they need to stay at home. Please contact reception (01223 882727 or email: [reception@cambridge-steiner-school.co.uk](mailto:reception@cambridge-steiner-school.co.uk)) to let us know.

Make sure that you inform the school if you or your child has any of the main symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19). You are advised to get a test as soon as possible and stay at home until you get the result.

The main symptoms of coronavirus are:

- a high temperature – this means you feel hot to touch on your chest or back (you do not need to measure your temperature)
- a 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)
- a 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

Please contact reception via phone or email and avoid entering the school building unless absolutely necessary. If you have any questions or there is anything else you would like to discuss, please do get in touch.

Warm wishes

Sarah