



INFORMATION FOR PARENTS/ CARERS WHO ARE ANXIOUS ABOUT THEIR CHILDREN ATTENDING SCHOOL

Following the announcement by the Government of a second lockdown starting 5th November 2020, new [Guidance](#) has been issued about how the National Restrictions to control the spread of coronavirus (COVID-19) impact education, childcare and children's social care settings.

We understand parents/carers are concerned about how this affects their own personal situation, especially if someone in the household or their child is classified as clinically vulnerable or clinically extremely vulnerable.

Children who are clinically vulnerable or have underlying health conditions but are not clinically extremely vulnerable, **may continue to attend school in line with current guidance**. More evidence has emerged that shows there is a very low risk of children becoming very unwell from coronavirus (COVID-19), even for children with existing health conditions. Most children originally identified as clinically extremely vulnerable no longer need to follow original shielding advice. If you are unsure of whether your child should still be classed as clinically extremely vulnerable, we advise you to speak to their GP or specialist clinician. Those children whose doctors have confirmed are still clinically extremely vulnerable are advised not to attend school whilst the national restrictions are in place. Parents of clinically extremely vulnerable children should be receiving a letter shortly confirming this advice.

Children who live with someone who is clinically extremely vulnerable, but who are not clinically extremely vulnerable themselves, should still attend school.

Pupils of compulsory school age must be in school unless a statutory reason applies (for example, the pupil has been granted a leave of absence, is unable to attend because of sickness, is absent for a necessary religious observance).

Being at school is vital for children's education and for their wellbeing. Time spent out of school is detrimental for children's cognitive and academic development. This impact can affect both current levels of education, and children's future ability to learn. It continues to be our aim that all pupils, in all year groups, remain in school full-time.

For the majority of children, the benefits of being back in the classroom far outweigh the low risk from coronavirus (COVID-19) and in line with Department for Education guidance and advice from Stockport Council's Health and Safety Team, we will be continuing to implement the recommended safety measures in school and continuously review our risk assessment and take action to reduce risks to ensure that the safety of our whole school community remains our priority.

Please see further information on [attendance expectations](#) issued by the Department for Education in line with most recent Government guidance.

We hope this information is useful but we also know that this is a lot to take in and you may have further questions. If you have any questions or require any further information, please feel free to contact the school office. We have taken many steps to ensure, as much as possible, that Government guidelines are followed to keep our whole school community safe and help to prevent the spread of the virus.

Thank you for your support.