



Collingwood Primary School Newsletter
Friday 23rd October 2020
"We live our lives with arms and minds wide open"

Flu immunisation took place for many staff and pupils this week. I would like to congratulate the children on how sensible they were.

Since we are not able to conduct tours for parents of pupils who start school next September, we are going to be making a film which will be published on our school website. No child will be filmed unless we have your written permission to film them for **"Photos/films to be used in the local media"** and **"Photos/films to promote our school with other educational audiences e.g Prospectus and website publication"**. Socially distanced filming will take place on Thursday 5th November and we look forward to showing you the end result.

We finally made it to half term! The children (and staff) are all very tired but I think it is fair to say that the full re-opening of Collingwood for all pupils has been successful...strange but successful! Well done to all in the Collingwood Family for making this work so well. I wish you all a restful half term. The first day for staff and pupils to return is Monday 2nd November but should there be any change to this we will tweet (@collingwoodprim) and display this on our website top right first before texting/emailing you when we are able to.

Mrs A Buckland-Garnett

Our School Development Priorities and Curriculum

We continue to assess pupils' abilities and identifying any gaps in reading, writing, spelling and maths between now and half term. This will have been shared with you at our Virtual T.L.C. meetings. Hopefully the technology worked and most of you were able to talk to staff, if not, please contact us if you do not hear from the class teacher by Mon 9th november, to arrange another appointment.! Paperwork summarising your child's assessments will be emailed to you after half term.

We are working closely with Edison Learning this term on providing an education which is still fun and exciting whilst ensuring that pupils focus on the reading, writing and maths curriculum they missed out on.

We are not planning any educational trips before Christmas and will review this for the spring term - the Year 6 residential trip is now pencilled in for May 2021.

Our budding Rockstars are really enjoying their Friday sessions, as you can see.



Year 5 taking part in a socially distanced PE lesson



Secondary School Applications for September 2021 – Reminder for Year 6 Parents

As you may be aware, the statutory closing date for applications from parents of Year 6 children (for a secondary school place in Year 7 from September 2021) is **31 October 2020**.

Applications can be made via the website www.essex.gov.uk/admissions

If you think we are doing a good job, please tell Ofsted by clicking here [Give your views](#)

Governor News

Our Statement of Governance, which details the membership, attendance and work carried out by our Governing Body is available to view on our school website. Our policies can be found on our school website, on the policies page www.collingwoodschool.net

Frequently asked questions

(taken from Essex Local Authority Information)

Why does Essex want to be in a higher level now- when it is lower than the government's national threshold?

Essex level of cases is increasing everywhere as it is nationally. The government threshold for action has moved upwards and upwards as cases increase. We are already at a level far higher than Leicester, Newcastle or Manchester where when they received intervention. We have strong evidence that cases are doubling every week to ten days. If this continues we will at some point reach the threshold for more intervention. We believe it makes sense to act now. Additionally numbers of people in acute hospital beds while still low, are now increasing quite steeply. There were often no beds with COVID patients in September, a week ago the number was 45 and yesterday was 89.

What does SAGE say about the Alert levels

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/925856/S0770_NPIs_table_pivot.pdf The link above is SAGE position on the likely benefits of interventions.

What do we need people in Essex to do

We feel what we are doing is in the best interest of everyone in Essex as we have the best chance of reducing the R number and getting cases down fast. This will ONLY happen if people work from home wherever possible and agree to restrict household contacts. If we do not, cases will carry on increasing

What happens if it doesn't work

If cases do not reduce sufficiently to turn the curve it is possible that Essex would need to move to Very High alert although we hope this can be avoided. If we fail totally then Essex would likely spend 3 or so weeks more in the High alert level than would otherwise have been the case. We will continue to monitor our progress over coming weeks

Why can Children mix with loads of people at school but not see their relatives

This is because we have chosen to try and keep schools open. In order to do this we need to make difficult trade-offs elsewhere. We NEED the household contacts restrictions to be adhered to if we are to allow the schools to stay open and reduce the spread. This is all being done at the margins and every single contact avoided helps. So your child not seeing their relatives becomes a really important action in reducing the virus spread. We just need to reduce R to below 1. Closing the schools would help but is not something most people are willing to do. Schools have implemented a hierarchy of protective measures, including increased cleaning, social distancing as much as possible and consistent groupings, to ensure that schools can remain a safe place for all children and young people and staff.

Why can I not have my children and grandchildren in the house but can have a plumber around and go to the hairdresser.

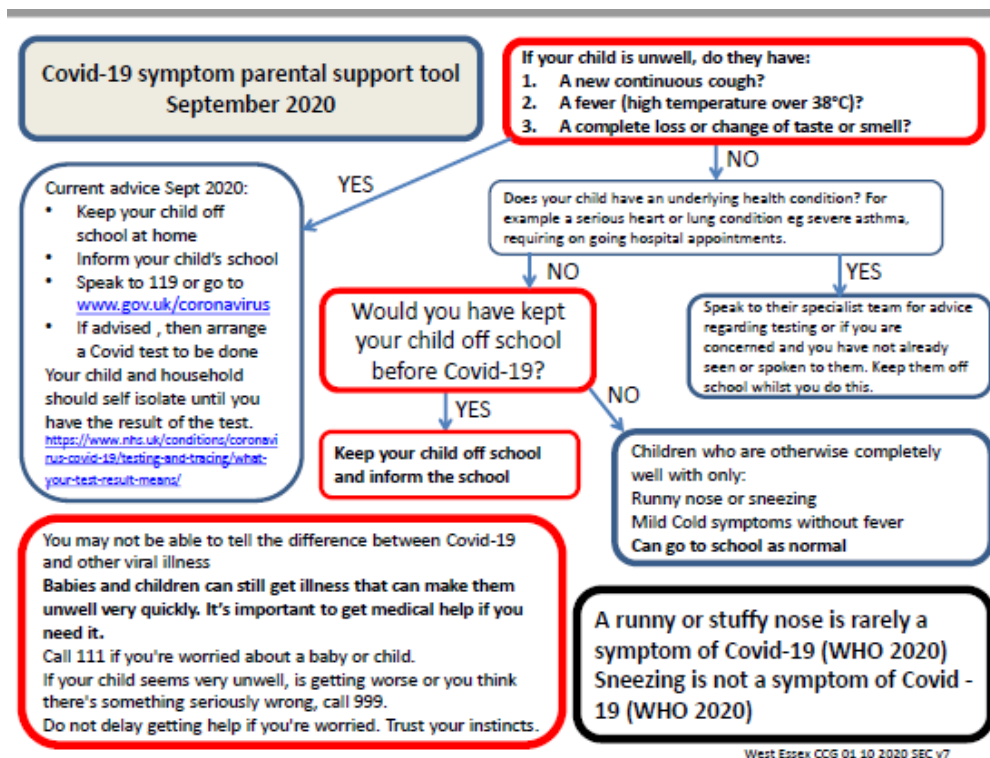
The restriction of households meeting is one of two key elements in what we need to do to reduce R below 1. It is very important then that it is adhered to. Evidence suggests that the impact of closing hairdressers who are using full protection is very low as people only see them very infrequently. Similarly plumbers who work in a covid secure way observing social distancing do not severely impact on the R number. We also all want to protect jobs and the economy as much as possible.

Who should not come onto the school site?

- Anyone displaying Covid-19 symptoms.*
- Anyone who has been contacted by Track and Trace and told to isolate.
- Anyone awaiting test results. (Please inform us of any results immediately)

* a constant new cough (coughing for over an hour or 3+ coughing bouts in a 24 hour period) , a high temperature (38 degrees or feeling hot to touch on chest or back), a loss/change in taste or smell.

How do I know if my child has Covid-19 symptoms or a cold?



How do I get a test?

Phone 111 or google "test centre near me" You can ask for a home test to be sent to you at <https://self-referral.test-for-coronavirus.service.gov.uk/antigen/name>. if you are concerned about someone who has symptoms use <https://111.nhs.uk/COVID-19> or phone 999.

What if the result is positive?

Please let us know via the admin@collingwood.essex.sch.uk email if someone in your household tests positive.

South Woodham Ferrers Leisure Centre

South Woodham Ferrers Leisure Centre are running October Half Term Multi Activity Camps, Monday 26th to Friday 30th October - half day 4-6 year olds 8.30am-12.30pm, full day 6-12 year olds 8.30am-5.30pm

There is a discount if booking a full week, they also accept Childcare vouchers.

The Leisure Centre will also be running Canoeing and Pool inflatables for the Over 8 competent swimmers.

Please follow the link for more details <https://www.chelmsford.gov.uk/leisure-centres/kids-holiday-activities/>



**FAMILY
LEARNING**



Essex Wide courses/workshops for all parents/carers/grandparents

ACL aims is "Improving Lives through Adult Learning in Essex", as part of this we have a dedicated Community and Family Learning team to support parents/carers/others supporting children and families in Essex. **These are delivered online, are FREE to attend.**

Course title	Start date and time	Number of weeks	Tutors	CLICK LINK TO BOOK ON THE course
Creative Play - Get crafty over Halloween	Thurs 29 th October 9:30-11:00	1	Mary Hilary	https://tinyurl.com/29th-Oct-Creative-Play/
Xmas on a budget At ACL Colchester	Tues 3 rd November 10:30-12:30	3	Vicki	Booking opening soon https://aclessex.com/community-family-learning-online/
How to give choices and consequences	Tues 3 rd November 18:30-20:30	1	Claudia Gillian	Booking opening soon https://aclessex.com/community-family-learning-online/
Growth Mindset - Help your child thrive & grow	Wed 4 th November 12:30-14:30	1	Gillian	Booking opening soon https://aclessex.com/community-family-learning-online/
Family Mindfulness	Wed 4 th November 12:30-14:30	2	Jane	https://tinyurl.com/Family-Mindfulness-4th-Nov
Encouraging your children to read	Thurs 5 th November 10:00-12:00	1	Jane	Booking opening soon https://aclessex.com/community-family-learning-online/
Setting Successful Boundaries	Thurs 5 th November 10:00-12:00	1	Gillian	https://tinyurl.com/setting-successful-boundaries
Zones of Regulation workshop	Thurs 5 th November 12:30-14:30	1	Gillian	https://tinyurl.com/Zones-of-Regulation-5th-Nov
Xmas on a budget At ACL Clacton	Fri 6 th November 9:30-11:30	3	Vicki	https://tinyurl.com/Christmas-on-a-budget-6th-Nov

More sessions are added weekly -so please keep checking our Facebook page - or <https://aclessex.com/community-family-learning-online/>

Dates for your diary

All dates can be found at www.collingwoodschool.net If school is ever closed, at short notice, it will appear on <http://www.essex.gov.uk/Education-Schools/Schools/Dates/Pages/Emergency-School-Closures.aspx> and the school website/twitter first and be announced on Essex FM and BBC Essex as soon as possible. Please avoid ringing the school as the phone is unlikely to be answered whilst we are organising staff!

Mon 26th - Fri 30th October

Half Term

Sat 31st October

Closing date for secondary school applications

Mon 9th November

Opening day for primary school applications

Fri 13th November

"Children in Need" day - (events to be confirmed)

Mon 21st Dec-Fri 1st Jan

Christmas Holidays

2021

Mon 4th Jan

First day of Spring Term

Fri 15th Jan

Closing date for primary school applications

Mon 15th - Fri 19th Feb

Half Term

Mon 29th Mar - Fri 9th Apr

Easter Break

Mon 3rd May

May Day

Thursday 6th May

School Closed for Polling

Mon 31st May-Fri 4th June

Half Term

Friday 16th July

Last Day for pupils

Mon 19th - 21st July

Non Pupil Days - school closed

School Closure days for 2021-2022 are not usually agreed by Governors before June. These will appear here and on our website calendar as soon as these have been agreed.

other sources of information

Are you a family who

- Struggles with their energy bills
- Have fuel debt (gas/electricity)
- Will go without essentials over winter, in order to be able to heat your home

If so, please get in touch with the Essex Winter Warm Scheme on 0300 3033 789 or visit the website www.warmhomesessex.org.uk

Online Safety

What to do if your child sees something upsetting online (Safer Internet Centre)

<https://www.saferinternet.org.uk/blog/advice-parents-what-do-if-your-child-sees-something-upsetting-online>

Online resources for parents & carers (Childnet International)

<https://www.childnet.com/ufiles/Parents-and-carers-resource-sheet-1019.pdf>

The Department for Education coronavirus (COVID-19) helpline is available to answer questions about coronavirus (COVID-19) relating to education and children's social care. Contact this helpline by calling 0800 046 8687 Opening hours: Monday to Friday from 8am to 6pm

Chelmsford Foodbank: Any donations for the foodbank can be left in our foyer - they are currently in need of the following items: tinned potatoes - jam/preserves/spreads - instant mash sachets- instant custard sachets - tinned custard - tinned rice pudding - ladies deodorants - ladies shampoo - washing powder/liquid/gel

In order to obtain food, you need a voucher which can be accessed from the Child and Family Wellbeing Service <https://www.essexfamilywellbeing.co.uk> 0300 247 0014, Or Citizen's Advice

<https://www.citizensadvice.org.uk/about-us/contact-us/contact-us/search-for-your-local-citizens->

[advice/local-citizens-advice-details/?serialnumber=100386](https://www.foodbank.org.uk/advice/local-citizens-advice-details/?serialnumber=100386) 01245 205579. You will then be able to collect food from the Foodbank centre or arrange for a delivery.