

Thursday 5th November

New National Restrictions - Government Guidance for Parents

Dear Parents / Carers

On Saturday 31 October, the Prime Minister announced New National Restrictions, which come into force today, **Thursday 5 November until Wednesday 2 December**, to control the spread of coronavirus (COVID-19).

The government continues to prioritise the wellbeing and long-term futures of our children and young people and will not be closing early years settings or schools.

It remains very important for children and young people to attend, to support their wellbeing and education and help working parents and guardians. Senior clinicians still advise that school is the best place for children to be, and so they should continue to go to school. Our school has implemented a range of protective measures to make them as safe as we can.

Childcare or education is one of the exceptions that children, young people and parents and carers can leave their home for.

Early years and childcare

There are several ways that parents and carers can continue to access childcare for the duration of the national restrictions:

- Early years settings and childminders remain open, and parents of under-5s can continue to use these settings as normal
- Parents will be able to access other childcare activities (including wraparound care) where reasonably necessary to enable parents to work, seek work, attend education or training, or for the purposes of respite care for carers
- Nannies will be able to continue to provide services in the home
- Parents are able to form a childcare bubble with another household for the purposes of informal childcare, where the child is 13 or under
- Some households will also be able to benefit from being in a support bubble, which allows single adult households to join another household

Stockwell Academy will continue to undertake risk assessments and implement the system of controls set out in government guidance.

Transport

Journeys should only be made:

- For education or childcare
- For work purposes
- To exercise outdoors or visit an outdoor public place
- For visiting venues that are open
- For a medical reason, such as taking someone to hospital

Face coverings

In primary schools and education settings teaching year 6 and below, there is no change to the existing position. In situations where social distancing between adults in settings is not possible (for example when moving around in corridors and communal areas, or talking to parents), settings have the discretion to recommend the use of face coverings for adults on site, for both staff, visitors, parents /carers.

What this means for Stockwell Academy

Bringing together the points from government guidance above, I would kindly ask that you observe the following in order to continue to keep our community safe.

- When waiting on the playground, to drop off or pick up your children, you need to observe the social distancing rule of standing 2 ms apart from other people that are not in your support bubble.
- If possible, only one parent/carer should drop off or pick up their child. This avoids having too many people congregated in one area and allows others to social distance
- If you need to contact your child's class teacher can you please do so through their online learning platform of Tapestry or SeeSaw. Alternatively you could call the school office. If you do need to speak to a member of staff, and it is convenient, I would kindly ask you to wear a face covering and observe the 2m rule
- Many schools have requested that parents wear face coverings when coming onto their school site. I haven't yet – and so far it is not mandatory. However, all our staff will be wearing face coverings when outside if we are with the children when parents / carers are on site. By wearing a face covering we are potentially protecting the person we need to talk with - not just ourselves.

Yours faithfully,

Mr. C. J. Coulter



Imagine

Believe

Achieve 3