

9 December 2020

Dear Parents

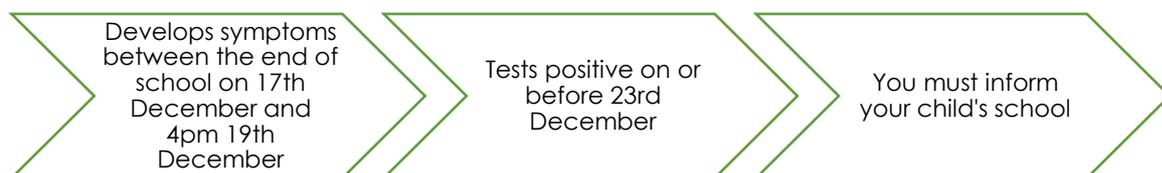
As we near the end of one of the most difficult school terms most of us will have experienced, I would like to start by expressing my gratitude to every single student, parent, carer and member of staff for working together to protect each other. We have been fortunate to have only had a handful of positive cases across our schools, with no cases at all in three of them. This is because we have been vigilant and diligent in our behaviours both inside and outside of school.

As we approach Christmas, we are all looking forward to putting Covid to the back of our minds and planning how we are going to spend that time. So, it is vital that we do not put this opportunity at risk by relaxing our behaviours now. We all have to face the reality that a positive case next week could lead to individuals and their contacts having to self-isolate over the festive season. This is a situation we hope does not occur.

Yesterday we received a communication from the Department for Education that encouraged us to make Friday 18th December a training day. While it is late in the day to receive this from the DfE we support this approach and will be making **Thursday 17th December the last day of term for all our students.**

I would now like to set out the procedure we need you to follow once the end of term is upon us:

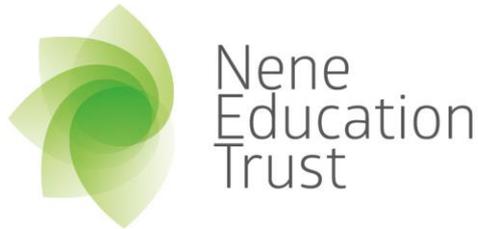
- If your child:



Each school will communicate before the end of term how they would like you to do this. Where a school receives a notification of a positive case, all close contacts will be informed and advised of the required actions. Please

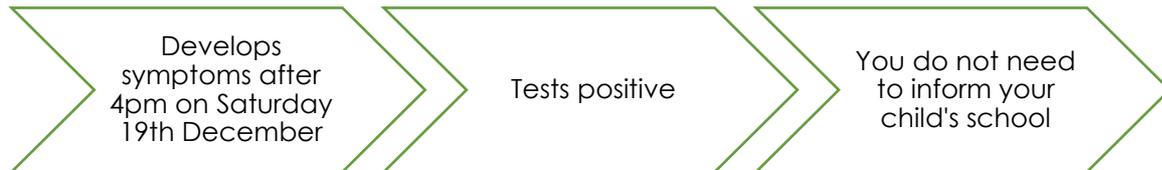
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be aware that this message could be in the form of an email or text message to you.

Alternatively If your child:



Since March 2020 we have had to respond to an ever-changing situation, and since September to the constant threat of Covid cases impacting on our ability to keep our schools open. We should be proud of how we have worked together in our communities through these dark and difficult times.

While Covid is not going to go away we can be confident that all our staff and students will get time to relax and enjoy the festivities for at least a few days over the Christmas break.

Season's Greetings to you all.

With best wishes,

CEO

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