



Firthmoor Primary School's Attendance Policy - addendum for use during the Covid-19 pandemic.

School Name: Firthmoor Primary School
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Attendance Policy 2020 Covid-19 Addendum

This addendum to Firthmoor Primary School's Attendance Policy is for use during the Covid-19 pandemic. This addendum applies until further notice. Unless covered in this addendum, our normal Attendance policy continues to apply.

It is necessary during this time to make some adjustments for the safety of all pupils and staff. It is to be used in conjunction with, and read alongside, the Behaviour Policy, Anti Bullying Policy and our Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy.

From the start of the autumn term 2020 pupil attendance will be mandatory – with the exception of Government imposed National Lockdown or Partial Reopening of Schools - and the usual rules on attendance will apply, including:

- parents' duty to ensure that their child of compulsory school age attends regularly at the school where the child is a registered pupil
- schools' responsibilities to record attendance and follow up absence
- the ability to issue sanctions, including fixed penalty notices, in line with local authorities' codes of conduct

Firthmoor Primary School will resume the register of attendance on SIMS using the Absence and Attendance codes directed by the government, including the recording of absence for not attending in circumstances related to coronavirus (COVID-19)

Attendance

No one with symptoms should attend school. Children who display symptoms must self-isolate from school for 10 days or until a negative test is received.

If a pupil tests positive, they should continue to self-isolate for at least 10 days from the onset of their symptoms. They should only return to school if they do not have symptoms other than a cough or loss of sense of smell or taste (anosmia). This is because a cough or anosmia can last for several weeks once the infection has gone.

If a member of their household displays symptoms they should self-isolate and the member of the household should get a test. If the member of the household tests negative, then the pupil can return to school. If the member of the household tests positive, then the pupils should continue self-isolating for the full 10 days from when the member of the household first had symptoms.

Should a confirmed case of COVID-19 occur in school, all staff and children within the associated 'bubble' will be sent home and told to self-isolate for 10 days

Firthmoor Primary School will continue to contact parents if a child who is expected to be in school does not attend and the school is not notified. The school will continue to explore reasons for non-attendance and address any issues as appropriate.

We will continue to record attendance in accordance with government regulations and

guidance, specifically recording non-attendance in circumstances related to coronavirus. No fixed penalty notices will be issued to parents following official public health advice for their child not to attend a given session.

Self-Isolation due to quarantine restrictions

As usual, any holidays taken within term time will be unauthorised. Families should consider that their child may need to self-isolate following trips overseas that require a period of quarantine. If a pupil is required to be in quarantine on arrival in, or return to, the UK, they must contact the school who will record their attendance in line with government guidance

Remote Education

If a pupil is unable to attend school due to circumstances relating to coronavirus, then access to remote education is available to them. Their learning will be monitored and supported with online work through our remote system.

Pupils who are clinically extremely vulnerable in a future local lockdown scenario only

If in future, rates of COVID-19 rise in local areas, children on the shielding list (or family members on the shielding list) from that area, and that area only, may be contacted by the government and advised to stay at home and shield during the period where rates remain high. Families will receive a letter if they are required to shield again that parents will be able to share with the school.

Firthmoor Primary School will contact parents of pupils who are shielding when measures in the local area are lifted and shielding is paused again, to set out the expectation that they can return to school.

Local lockdown

If rates of COVID-19 rise locally, schools may need to prevent some pupils from attending. Firthmoor Primary School will follow PHE or DHSC guidance on what measures are necessary in the event of local lockdown. Where attendance is to be limited to certain groups, 'not attending in circumstances related to coronavirus (COVID-19)' the school will refer to government guidance for recording attendance for pupils who are asked not to attend.