

# Eastbrook School



## School Attendance Policy Addendum

Date: September 2020

To be reviewed every year

Headteacher: Mr Paul Frith

### **Attendance Policy Addendum**

In line with the DfE guidance, as of September all students are expected to attend school as normal. The addendum below is in addition to the current school policy.

#### ***School attendance is compulsory again from the beginning of the autumn term.***

This means from September 2020, the usual rules on school attendance apply, including:

- parents' duty to send their child to school regularly where they are of compulsory school age;
- schools' responsibilities to record attendance and follow up absence.
- the availability of local authorities to use legal sanctions, including penalty notices and prosecution in court.

It is vital for all children to return to school to minimise as far as possible the longer-term impact of the pandemic on their education, wellbeing and wider development. We know that children have missed being with their friends and the wider social aspects of school.

Missing out on more time in the classroom risks pupils falling further behind. Those with higher overall absence tend to achieve less well in both primary and secondary school.

Students who do not attend school because of illness due to Covid-19 symptoms will receive a mark according to the guidance issued by the DfE.

If there is a need to shield or self-isolate, contact must be made with the school. The following government principles and guidance will be used to decide if your child should be shielding or self-isolating.

- children and young people who have been classed as [clinically extremely vulnerable due to pre-existing medical conditions](#) have been advised to shield. Clinically vulnerable (but not clinically extremely vulnerable) people are those considered to be at a higher risk of severe illness from coronavirus. Few if any children will fall into this category, but parents should follow medical advice if their child is in this category.
- child or young person who lives with someone who is clinically vulnerable (but not clinically extremely vulnerable), including those who are pregnant, can attend their education or childcare setting.
- if a child or young person or staff member lives in a household with someone who is extremely clinically vulnerable, as set out in the [guidance on shielding](#), it is advised they only attend an education or childcare setting if stringent social distancing can be adhered to and, in the case of children, if they are able to understand and follow those instructions - this may not be possible for very young children and older children without the capacity to adhere to the instructions on social distancing. If stringent social distancing cannot be adhered to, we do not expect those individuals to attend.
- children or young people should not attend if they [have symptoms or are self-isolating due to symptoms in their household](#).
- If a pupil tests negative and if they feel well and no longer have symptoms similar to coronavirus (COVID-19), they can stop self-isolating and return to school. If the pupil remains unwell following the test (such as with a different illness), then they should be recorded as code I – illness, as would usually be the case. Code X should only be used up until the time of the negative test result. Schools should not retrospectively change the attendance register due to a negative test result.

- 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. Code X should be used for the period of self-isolation until the test. After the pupil tests positive they should be recorded as code I (illness) until they are able to return to school.

Due to the staggered starts, the school register will close at 9.45am. Any student that arrives after this time will be marked as absent for that session.

<b>What you should do....</b>	<b>Action needed</b>	<b>Return to school when....</b>	<b>Attendance code</b>
<p>If your child displays one or more of the following symptoms</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• High Temperature - This will include the child being hot to touch on their back and chest</li> <li>• A new, continuous cough: This means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours</li> <li>• A loss or change in their smell or taste senses. This will include not able to taste or smell anything</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Stay at home</li> <li>• Get a test</li> <li>• Keep in daily contact with the school</li> <li>• Inform the school of the test result immediately</li> </ul>	A negative result is returned	Code X
<p>If your child tests positive for coronavirus</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Stay at home</li> <li>• Keep in daily contact with the school</li> <li>• Self-isolate for at least 10 days</li> <li>• Inform the school of the test result immediately</li> </ul>	If they feel better, they can return to school after 10 days even if they have a cough or loss of smell/taste. These symptoms can last for several weeks once the infection has gone	Code I
<p>If someone in your house has coronavirus symptoms</p>	Stay at home	The member of your household with coronavirus symptoms tests negative	Code X

If your child returns from a location abroad which requires quarantine	Stay at home	Once the quarantine period is over	Code X
If your child does not attend in accordance with guidance from PHE or the DHSC	Stay at home	Once the quarantine period is over	Code X
In the event of a local lockdown	Students to be directed not to attend	This will be directed by the school	Code X