



Dear Parents/Guardian,

We are aware that since the announcement from the Prime Minister on Saturday that new restrictions come into force today, anxiety has been raised, we are all anxious about keeping everyone safe and the impact further restrictions will have on our health and wellbeing. Late yesterday, schools received additional guidance which outlined some changes, these changes are to be in place from Monday 9th November.

Please see below the main changes and **in blue**, our decision making regarding them.

#### **Clinically extremely vulnerable staff and pupils (CEV)**

More evidence has emerged that shows there is a very low risk of children becoming very unwell from coronavirus (COVID-19), even for children with existing health conditions. Most children originally identified as clinically extremely vulnerable no longer need to follow original shielding advice. Parents should be advised to speak to their child's GP or specialist clinician if they have not already done so, to understand whether their child should still be classed as clinically extremely vulnerable. **Those children whose doctors have confirmed they are still clinically extremely vulnerable are advised not to attend school during the period this advice is in place.**

Those students who are over 18 who receive a letter confirming that they are still clinically extremely vulnerable are advised not to attend education whilst the national restrictions are in place.

Children who live with someone who is clinically extremely vulnerable, but who are not clinically extremely vulnerable themselves, should still attend education or childcare.

Parents of clinically extremely vulnerable children will be receiving a letter shortly confirming this advice.

If you have received a letter or email confirming this please send us a copy at [reception@chiltern.beds.sch.uk](mailto:reception@chiltern.beds.sch.uk), this will enable us to record this appropriately, your child must stay at home. We will support you by providing remote learning as appropriate. More details will follow.

#### **The Chiltern School**

Kingsland Campus, Parkside Drive  
Houghton Regis, Beds LU5 5PX  
Tel: 01582 866972

Beech Road Campus, Beech Road  
Dunstable, Beds LU6 3LY

Headteacher: Lisa Leonard  
Email: [school@chiltern.beds.sch.uk](mailto:school@chiltern.beds.sch.uk)

**Staff** - Those individuals who are clinically extremely vulnerable are advised to work from home and not to go into work. Individuals in this group will have been identified through a letter from the NHS or from their GP, and may have been advised to shield in the past. We are working closely with staff but we have a significant number of staff that have already received this message and are now working remotely, this reduces numbers in school significantly. We are looking at this on a daily basis but we are having to move staff across the school to ensure there are safe numbers to supervise young people.

**Visitors to the setting** - Settings should restrict all visits to the setting to those that are absolutely necessary. All meetings will take place virtually during this period.

**Face coverings** should be worn by adults and children aged 11 and above when moving around the premises, outside of classrooms or activity rooms, such as in corridors and communal areas where social distancing cannot easily be maintained. We refer to our previous decision making regarding the use of face coverings in school and the need for our young people to be able to see and hear us properly, face coverings in school will not be mandatory.

**The role of several curriculum subjects such as music, dance and drama** - Does not apply to our setting, control measures already in place.

**School sports** - Pupils are already kept where possible in consistent groups and sports equipment thoroughly cleaned between each use by different individual groups. Outdoor sports are prioritised.

As a last resort we may need to consider if the school is safe to remain open to all pupils. If we find that we reach a point where a reduction in staffing numbers means we do not have the capacity to keep all classes open safely (ie if there is no staff available), we may have no alternative but to review whether we need to implement a short-term partial closure for some zones/classes.

We will continue to work together to keep everyone safe and well, if you have any concerns or questions, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Kind regards,

Lisa  
Headteacher