

CIPS News

24th September 2021

PHA GUIDANCE AND UPDATES

On last week's newsheet I provided you with information about the recent updates with Track and Tracing from PHA. As you are aware PHA are now responsible for conducting Track and Tracing where a positive case is identified in a school setting.

WHAT DO I DO IF MY CHILD TESTS POSITIVE FOR COVID-19?

If your child tests positive for COVID-19, they should self-isolate for 10 days and not attend school during this time. The Public Health Agency Contact Tracing Service (PHA CTS) will be in touch to determine who your child's close contacts are, and will ask for contact details for them so they can be advised appropriately. If your child tests positive for COVID-19, you should inform the school, who may issue Warn & Inform letters to the class.

WHAT IF MY CHILD TESTS NEGATIVE FOR COVID-19?

If your child tests negative for COVID-19 they can return to school as normal, provided they feel well enough to do so.

WHAT DO I DO IF MY CHILD'S FRIEND TESTS POSITIVE?

If you do not hear from the PHA CTS, then there is no requirement for you or your child to self-isolate. The PHA CTS will identify all close contacts, and follow them up directly. If your child has been identified as a close contact, then the PHA CTS will make contact with you or your child and provide advice. However, if your child develops symptoms, then they must self-isolate and not attend school, until they have had a negative test.

Half-Term Holiday

Monday 25th October to Friday 29th October

School reopens Monday 1st November

After-School Clubs

All after-school clubs will begin the week beginning 4th October. You will be informed next week if your child has a place at the clubs they requested. There may need to be some changes to the timetable as some clubs were oversubscribed and others didn't have enough interest to make them viable.

Parent Consultations

Wednesday 20th, Thursday 21st & Friday 22nd October

We have decided to carry out face to face meetings. All meetings will be held in the assembly hall with the doors open. Parents will be asked to wait outside until they are called in by the teacher. Masks must be worn and social distancing will be in place.

Please remember that school will close at 12.00pm on all 3 days to facilitate consultations.

FLU IMMUNISATION PROGRAMME

The Flu Vaccination programme in schools will be going ahead this year in the Autumn Term. The School Health Team will be visiting the school on Tuesday 2nd November for the flu immunisation programme. Consent forms will be sent home to you with children in the coming weeks. You **MUST** complete the consent form for the vaccine to be administered.

The programme has been introduced to give protection to children against flu, which can be a very unpleasant illness and can mean that they have to take time off school. It will also help to stop the spread of flu and so will protect people around them as well. The vaccine is usually given to children by a simple spray into their nose and they can return to their lessons very quickly afterwards.

Information about the programme and leaflets in other languages can be found at:

<http://www.fluawareni.info>

A short video aimed at children explaining the programme has been developed by the Public Health Agency and can be found on the following link: Vaccinate kids as the first line of defence against flu.