



Sheerness West Federation

Week Ahead

17 May 2021



Federation Message from Mrs Pattenden ...

Dear Parents/Carers

Yet another busy week throughout the Federation!

It has been lovely to see all of the children engaged in their learning and great to see them smiling despite the turn in the weather!

We will keep you posted with regards to any up and coming events depending on restrictions lifting.

We hope you have a great weekend.

WHAT TO DO IF YOUR CHILD TESTS POSITIVE FOR COVID OR IS UNWELL

We are asking all parents to ensure that you **do not send your child to school if they are suffering with one of the 3 main symptoms, please keep them at home if you have any concerns.** If you do keep your child home, you must, of course, notify school in the normal way.

We would also remind parents of the following:

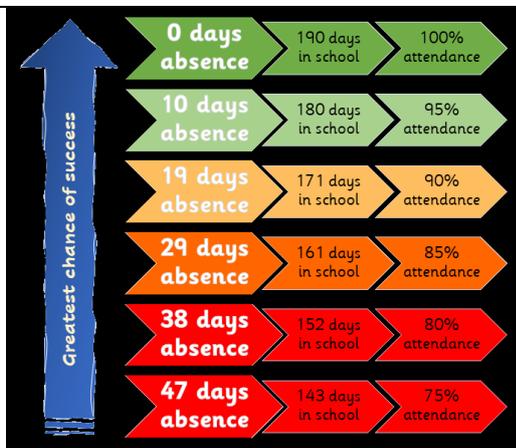
- 1. If someone in your household tests positive the whole household MUST isolate for 10 days – please inform the school urgently via the office email between 8-4 or via ClassDojo if out of hours.** Nobody from the household should go out even if they have no symptoms. (if this is from a lateral flow test you have done **at home**, you should then get a PCR test, and once again let us know the result.)
- 2. If someone in your household has symptoms or is getting a test, everyone should stay at home whilst that person gets a test. Children should not attend school during that time.** If the result is negative you can return to normal. If the result is positive you must follow the above points in number 1.

Federation message from Ms Brewer and Mrs Mackay

Dear Parents/Carer

Now that the children have fully returned and restrictions begin to lift some form of normality returns, it's important that we refocus on good attendance. Regular and punctual attendance is essential for effective learning, promoting positive relationships and developing good attitudes to education. An absence is classified as authorised when a child has been away from school for a legitimate reason. Only the school can make an absence authorised. An absence is classified as unauthorised when the school believes a child is away from school without good reason. For example, if a parent takes a child out of school to go shopping during school hours or keeps them home because it's their birthday.

This is also true for lateness. Lateness can be unsettling for children as they miss the beginning of the school day, which has an impact on the rest of their day. In some cases where lateness is a regular occurrence the missed learning opportunity can very quickly add up as demonstrated in the table below.



| Minutes late per day during the school year | Equals days worth of teaching lost in a year |
|---------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------|
| 5 minutes | 3.4 days |
| 10 minutes | 6.9 days |
| 15 minutes | 10.3 days |
| 20 minutes | 13.8 days |
| 30 minutes | 20.7 days |

Reading at home

Reading stimulates children's imaginations and expands their understanding of the world. It helps them develop language and listening skills and prepares them to understand the written word. Reading is the key to unlocking all subjects and is the foundations for all learning. It's really important for children to read every day, please can we ask that you hear your child read every day at home or encourage them to read independently.

Can we kindly remind you of the need to park your vehicles safely bearing in mind also the need for prams and pushchairs to be able to access pathways into school.

Can I also thank those parents who are not riding scooters and bikes on school premises, just this week there was a near miss when a child was nearly hit.

West Minster

Our school field had an unexpected visitor on two occasions this week. A young fox cub had got itself tangled in the football netting and needed rescuing. Thank you to the very kind parent that assisted myself in cutting it free. As a result of this we are now lifting the nets up out of harm's way to protect the wildlife we have living nearby.

Message from the Well-being Team

Everyone will feel differently about the changes on Monday as lockdown restrictions begin to ease. Some people may feel relieved about the rules changing, some may feel concerned. You might not know how you feel, or feel a mixture of emotions.

We haven't been able to see much of our friends and family so as restrictions lift, we may be flooded with invitations. This can be very overwhelming, especially for children. Let your friends and family know how you are feeling, even if that means waiting a bit longer to meet up.

So, let's be kind to ourselves; don't feel the need to have to start again immediately, as it's okay to take time to readjust to a gradual return to normality.

With change in mind, Irene Montgomery, our Inclusion Support has returned to working across the federation. We welcome her back to West Minster Monday – Wednesday and she continues to provide support at Rose Street Thursday & Friday.

This week's letters/emails sent and on our website (<http://www.rose-street.kent.sch.uk/>) and (<http://www.west-minster.kent.sch.uk/>) were:

Parents Evening signing up guide (Published 12.5.21)

This week's Dates for your diary:

Future Dates

- Monday 17th – Friday 21st May - Parents Evenings
- Thursday 20th May - Spring Fun Lunch
- Friday 21st May - Staff Development Day
- Friday 28th May - Term 5 ends
- Monday 7th June - Term 6 begins