



Middleton News



Volume 2 Issue 1

14th September 2020

Welcome Back!



We made it – we finally achieved a full school re-opening and it has been such a joy to have our school filled with the sound of happy children once again!

Attachments...and more!



Apologies for the number of attachments that you are being sent with this newsletter. I am aware that it is 'information overload' but need to share with families some useful documentation. I am attaching a calendar for the Autumn Term detailing some key dates. In addition I am also re-sending the term dates for the whole academic year. Thirdly, I am sharing with families our 'flowchart advice' which explains the protocols we must follow in our current uncertain climate. In accordance with NHS guidance, we currently need to ask all household members to isolate while awaiting the test result of an individual family member. If the result is negative then the child may return to school immediately.

We do have a supply of hand sanitiser and PPE in school for staff and pupil use. Please do not send hand sanitiser in from

home as it is a potential hazard in the wrong hands!

Thank You

On behalf of all of the staff here at Middleton I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your support, patience and understanding over the past six months. We are blessed to have such a supportive, positive school community and have definitely emerged through the other side 'stronger together!' As we are all aware (listening to the daily news has once again become quite depressing!) we are entering another period of uncertainty. We are continuing to work within tight class bubbles at school and have put in place strict measures to protect the safety of all as far as possible. Parents have been excellent at informing us if their children are unwell and keeping them at home as a precautionary measure. All schools are experiencing a drop in pupil attendance as we aim to get to grips with isolation rules. In addition, staffing levels are also challenging for schools as staff have the same restrictions placed upon them as the pupils do. At present, we are coping well with these challenges, but as the weeks progress there could be a potential need to close a class temporarily although we will obviously avoid this wherever possible. Please

check your emails regularly for updates.

Once again, thank you for working so effectively with the school in these unprecedented times.

Meet the teacher!

As you will be aware from the letter you received last week, our 'Meet the teacher' evening has been re-scheduled as a virtual event this week. Please refer to the letter sent out to check times and access codes.

Jeans for Genes



This Friday – 18th September, we will be supporting the 'Jeans for Genes' event – which aims to raise funds for children affected by genetic disorders. If you would like to support this fundraising event, then your child may wear jeans to school this Friday and donate £1 to the charity.

Flu Vaccines



We are being told within the media that our flu vaccinations will be more important than ever this year. You will have been sent a consent form for your child. Please can we remind you to complete and return these forms as soon as possible.

Family Liaison telephone contact

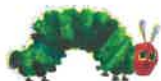


During the Summer term and our school closure period, we invested in an additional telephone line for our Family Liaison Officer; Sharron Graffato. This allowed parents to remain in contact with Sharron and seek guidance where appropriate. This term we will continue to provide parents with access to this phone line (07740410650) but please bear in mind that this is during office hours – 8.30 am until 5.00pm. We would also encourage parents to use the school landline (01920 485152) as their first port of call.

Tales From The Chalkface!

Lower School

The topic in Lower School at the moment is 'Changes' which is very apt when you consider all of the changes taking place in school at the moment! Within Geography the children have been learning about the changing seasons. In English this week, the children have shared the book 'The hungry Caterpillar' and there is a strong focus on learning to write their name. The 'Hungry Caterpillar' supports the work on naming each day in the week and also the changes that happen to the caterpillar.



Middle School

The Middle School topic of 'Out of this world', has the pupils exploring the planets and space! They have been learning the names of the planets and their distance from the sun. They have been getting messy creating papier mache planets! Last week they read the book 'Whatever Next' and made sandwiches to take to the moon.



Upper School

The Upper School are currently working on the topic 'Beans'! This is a fabulous topic which explores many themes across the curriculum. I think my favourite aspect is the practical study of the cocoa bean!

Last week the children made a kidney bean salad. The pupils explored different countries around the world and compared 'rich' countries and 'poor' countries.

Within maths they are learning about 2D shapes and 'sorting'.



All of the children have settled so well back into school, and we welcome 20 new pupils into our school community. In addition we welcome three new staff members; Miss Carrick in Puffins, Miss Hatton in Kestrels and Mr Kelly in Robins. We hope that new

Middleton News

pupils, families and staff alike will enjoy their journey with us. We are currently blessed with sunshine and blue skies. I hope you are able to make the most of this while it lasts and will leave with a few photos of our children enjoying some time outside.

Many thanks

Debbie Hartley



Information for parents and carers on suspected COVID-19 (coronavirus) in a child

WHEN TO SUSPECT COVID-19 IN YOUR CHILD:

if they develop symptoms of a new continuous cough and/or high temperature and/or a loss of, or change in, normal sense of taste or smell (anosmia)

Do not send your child to school or childcare setting. Inform the setting through absence reporting

If your child develops symptoms at the childcare setting, they will be separated from others, and will **be sent home**

If your child (or anyone in your household) has symptoms they must arrange a test **as soon as possible** and isolate at home for **10 days** from date of onset of symptoms (or until they receive a negative result). Everyone else in the household who does not have symptoms must isolate at home for 14 days (or until the symptomatic household member receives a negative result)

Arrange for a coronavirus test for anyone in your household with symptoms either online via www.nhs.uk/coronavirus or call NHS testing line on 119. The test must be done within **five days** of when symptoms start. Ensure you know who to contact with the results in the school/childcare setting if the results are received outside usual working hours

You will be offered a test at your closest drive-through centre. This is the quickest option. A parent or carer will need to perform the test on children under 12 years old. If you don't drive, you can request a home test kit. **Do not** get a taxi or public transport to the test centre

Result of test (you will receive this by email or text message)

NEGATIVE

Child/staff member can return to setting once well, unless they are a contact of a case, when they will need to complete 14 days self-isolation

If your child is identified as having been in contact with a confirmed case, they will need to self-isolate for 14 days, even if they have had a negative test result. If they develop symptoms, they should isolate for 10 days from onset of symptoms, arrange testing and follow the flowchart above

For medical advice call NHS 111, or in an emergency call 999

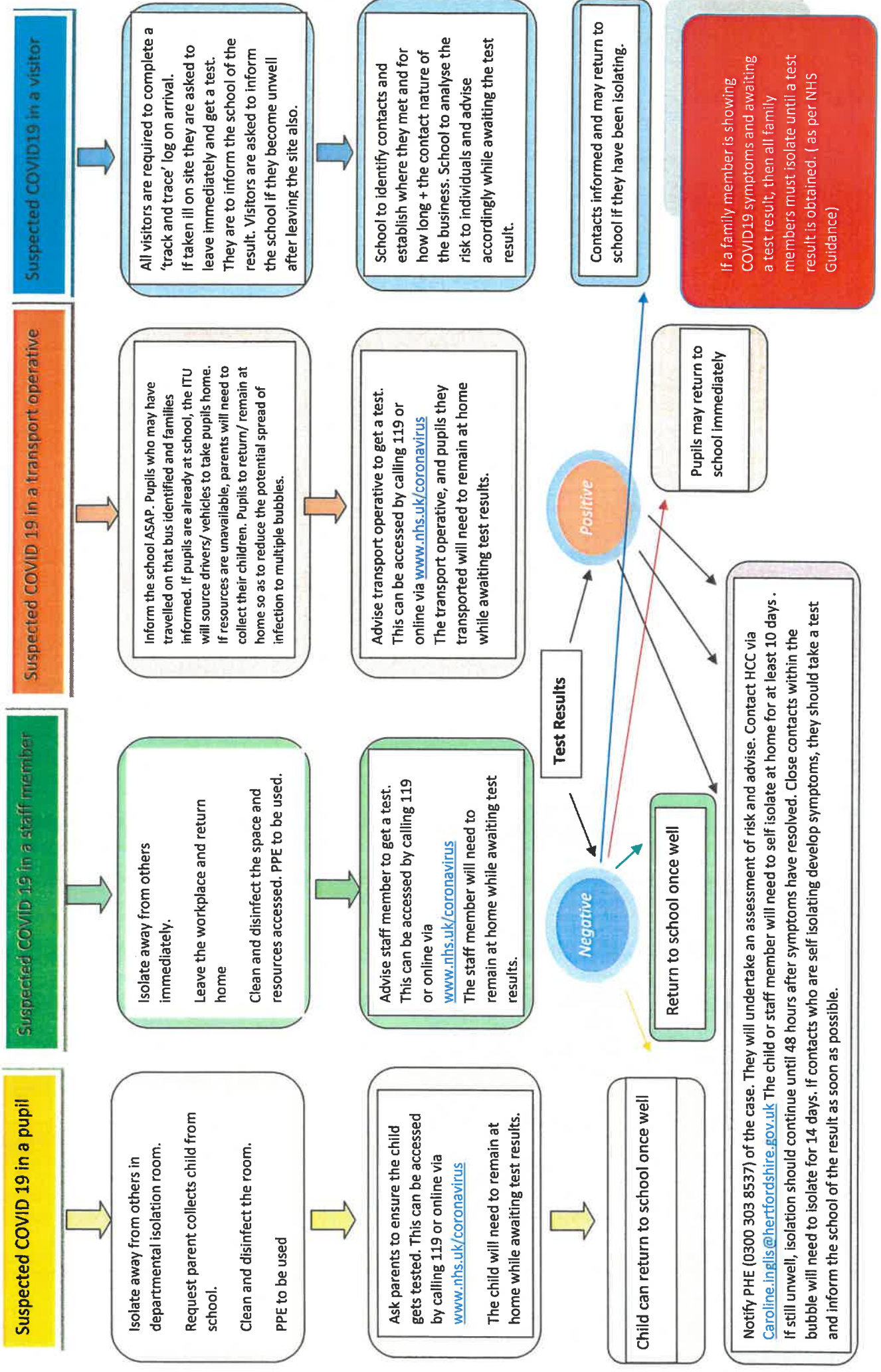
POSITIVE

Inform the school or childcare setting as soon as possible even if outside opening hours. The child's close contacts within the school will be advised to self-isolate for 14 days

Ensure the child who has tested positive completes the **10 day** isolation period (from date of onset of symptom)*. Household members without symptoms should complete 14 days isolation

NHS Test & Trace will send you a text or email alert or call you with instructions of how to share details of people with whom you have had close, recent contact and places you have visited

*If the child is a confirmed case they can return to the childcare setting/school after 10 days. If they still have a temperature, diarrhoea or are being sick they should wait until 48 hours after these symptoms stop. If the child does not develop symptoms, but lives in a household with someone who has tested positive, they can return to setting after completing 14 days self-isolation at home



Suspected COVID 19 in a pupil

Isolate away from others in departmental isolation room. Request parent collects child from school. Clean and disinfect the room. PPE to be used

Ask parents to ensure the child gets tested. This can be accessed by calling 119 or online via www.nhs.uk/coronavirus. The child will need to remain at home while awaiting test results.

Child can return to school once well

Suspected COVID 19 in a staff member

Isolate away from others immediately. Leave the workplace and return home. Clean and disinfect the space and resources accessed. PPE to be used.

Advise staff member to get a test. This can be accessed by calling 119 or online via www.nhs.uk/coronavirus. The staff member will need to remain at home while awaiting test results.

Return to school once well

Suspected COVID 19 in a transport operative

Inform the school ASAP. Pupils who may have travelled on that bus identified and families informed. If pupils are already at school, the ITU will source drivers/vehicles to take pupils home. If resources are unavailable, parents will need to collect their children. Pupils to return/ remain at home so as to reduce the potential spread of infection to multiple bubbles.

Advise transport operative to get a test. This can be accessed by calling 119 or online via www.nhs.uk/coronavirus. The transport operative, and pupils they transported will need to remain at home while awaiting test results.

Pupils may return to school immediately

Suspected COVID 19 in a visitor

All visitors are required to complete a 'track and trace' log on arrival. If taken ill on site they are asked to leave immediately and get a test. They are to inform the school of the result. Visitors are asked to inform the school if they become unwell after leaving the site also.

School to identify contacts and establish where they met and for how long + the contact nature of the business. School to analyse the risk to individuals and advise accordingly while awaiting the test result.

Contacts informed and may return to school if they have been isolating.

If a family member is showing COVID19 symptoms and awaiting a test result, then all family members must isolate until a test result is obtained. (as per NHS Guidance)



Notify PHE (0300 303 8537) of the case. They will undertake an assessment of risk and advise. Contact HCC via Caroline.Inglis@hertfordshire.gov.uk. The child or staff member will need to self isolate at home for at least 10 days. If still unwell, isolation should continue until 48 hours after symptoms have resolved. Close contacts within the bubble will need to isolate for 14 days. If contacts who are self isolating develop symptoms, they should take a test and inform the school of the result as soon as possible.



MIDDLETON SCHOOL PLANNER
September – December 2020

	September	October	November	December
M				
T	1 INSET DAY			1
W	2 Robins/ Toucans/ Eagles			2
T	3 Penguins/ Puffins/ Kingfishers	1		3 Carols around Xmas Tree
F	4 Owls/ Swifts/ Kestrels	2		4
S	5	3		5
S	6	4	1	6
M	7 All pupils return	5	2 SCHOOL PHOTOS	7
T	8	6 Baseline Assessments	3	8
W	9	7	4 Governors – Resources Committee	9
T	10	8	5	10 Xmas Production?
F	11	9	6 1.15 close for staff training	11 Xmas Production? X2
S	12	10	7	12
S	13	11	8	13
M	14	12	9	14 Xmas Jumper Day Xmas Fun Day
T	15 'Meet the teacher'	13	10	15 Staff Panto
W	16	14	11	16 Xmas Dinner
T	17 STEPS training for new staff	15	12	17 Parties and Santa
F	18 Jeans for Genes	16	13 Children In Need	18 Disco 1.15pm end of term
S	19	17	14	19
S	20	18	15	20
M	21	19	16 Xmas Photos	21
T	22	20 Parent Consultations	17 Governors – School improvement	22
W	23	21 Parent Consultations	18	23
T	24	22 Harvest Festival	19	24
F	25	23	20	25
S	26	24 Half Term	21	26
S	27	25	22	27
M	28	26	23	28
T	29 Full Governing Body	27	24 Full Governing Body	29
W	30	28	25	30
T		29	26	31
F		30	27	
S		31	28	
S			29	
M			30	

INSET Monday 4th JANUARY

Middleton School term dates and INSET days 2020/ 2021

Inset Days:

Tuesday 1st September

Monday 4th January

Thursday 11th March

Tuesday 8th June (although not in school – taken as twilights)

Friday 25th June

Occasional day –

Monday 7th June 2020

Autumn Term dates

Tuesday 1st September 2020 - **Inset Day**

Wednesday 2nd September – Robins, Toucans and Eagles induction in school

Thursday 3rd September – Penguins, Puffins and Kingfishers induction in school

Friday 4th September – Owls, Swifts and Kestrels induction in school

Half term – 26th – 30th October

Friday 6th November 1.15pm closure for staff training

End of term Friday 18th December 2020 1.15pm

Spring term dates

Monday 4th January – **INSET DAY**

Tuesday 5th January – Pupils Return

Friday 8th January - 1.15pm closure for staff training

Half term – 15th -19th February

Friday 26th February - 1.15pm closure for staff training

26th March – end of term (1.15pm)

Summer term dates

12th April – term begins

Friday 16th April - 1.15pm closure for staff training

half term – 31st May – 11th June

Pupils return **Monday 14th June**

Friday 23rd July – end of term - (1.15pm)