

For the attention of the whole school community

15 December 2020

A message from our local Public Health team – How to stay safe this Christmas and avoid the January surge!

Dear Member of our school community,

From Wednesday 23 December to Sunday 27 December, people will be allowed to form a [Christmas bubble](#) of up to three households for a five-day period, allowing families to reunite for festive celebrations. For Wolverhampton, all other [Tier 3 restrictions](#) remain in place.

2020 has been a difficult year and we could all do with some time to relax and have fun over Christmas, but it is still vitally important that we all remain vigilant and safe from Covid-19. Entering into a Christmas bubble still requires us all to continue with all the precautions that have been taken to prevent the spread of the virus.

Treat everyone as if you have it, and as if they have it - that is the safe way of behaving, even within your Christmas bubble.

Here are some tips on how to enjoy your Christmas bubble and continue to minimise the risk of infection:

- Ensure rooms are well ventilated
- Reduce the amount of time spent indoors
- Wipe down surfaces and contact points frequently
- Wash your hands often
- Keep close contact down to a minimum – for example, try not to hug people and stick to the two metre rule
- Let steamy shower rooms ventilate before using them after someone else
- Wear masks when you can
- Get a rapid test for yourself and your loved ones (see below for Lateral Flow Testing) and continue to apply precautions at all times.

Remember - every single little thing you do to avoid catching this virus counts!

Anyone who develops Covid-19 symptoms should not enter into a Christmas bubble. If you do develop COVID-19 symptoms – a new, continuous cough, a high temperature or a loss of taste or smell – go and get tested as quickly as possible:

If you test positive, you should follow the [guidance](#) about self-isolating.

If you do not have any coronavirus symptoms, you can still get yourself tested.

The Civic Centre has been transformed into a mass Lateral Flow Testing centre to provide asymptomatic (without symptoms) testing for Covid-19 with results in 30-60 minutes.

Adults and children over 2 years old are able to access a test, providing they are not displaying Covid-19 symptoms. The site does not provide testing for those that have been asked to isolate due to identified close contact with someone who has tested positive.

The testing centre is open 7 days a week, providing testing Monday to Friday 8.00am-7.00pm and weekends 10.00-6.00pm. There is no requirement to book an appointment, those wanting to get a test can simply arrive, register on site and get tested by providing a nasal and throat swab. Free parking is provided for those accessing a test at the adjacent, St Peter's car park (WV1 1LY).

Stay safe this Christmas. Be kind this Christmas. Let's do all that we can to avoid a surge in cases in January.

Wishing you all a very happy Christmas.

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