

30 March 2021

For Parents and Carers of Wiltshire Schools

School Effectiveness
County Hall
Bythesea Road
Trowbridge
Wiltshire
BA14 8JN

Dear Parents and Carers

As we head towards the Easter holiday, which I'm sure many of you are looking forward to, we thought now would be a good opportunity to thank you for your continued efforts in playing your part to reduce the COVID-19 virus rates in Wiltshire.

By all accounts, the majority of children have settled back into their normal school-life very quickly following the restrictions that came into place in January. We know it's been a very unpredictable period for you and the children but your support and patience has been appreciated.

We would also like to say thank you to the parents and carers of secondary school pupils who have been faithfully taking LFD tests twice weekly. Please remember to continue using the twice weekly tests over the Easter holidays and report the results.

Parents of early years, primary and secondary school aged children can also pick up LFD tests so they can carry out twice weekly tests on themselves. Please also continue to do this during the Easter break. If you need details of where to access these tests details are here:
<https://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/public-health-coronavirus-testing>

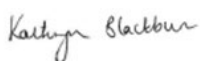
We have seen COVID-19 virus rates in Wiltshire fall considerably in the last two months or so. At one point in January the rates of cases per 100k in Wiltshire over a seven-day period was 364.8, and since then we have seen that figure fall to 27.2. However, to put that in context – a figure of more than 20 would have caused great concern last year so we still have to be on our guard. We are of course in a much more positive place; with the ongoing success of the vaccination programme and a roadmap in place that we are all working towards, which will hopefully see restrictions further eased over the next few months.

Until that point though, it's still so important that we closely follow the rules currently in place and keep playing our part over the Easter break. So here are just a few things to bear in mind:

- Overnight stays are not allowed under the restrictions
- From 12 April people can travel as a household to self-contained accommodation where no other households are present
- Meeting indoors is not allowed under the restrictions
- You can meet up to six people or two households in a garden as well as a public space
- Remember to keep socially distancing.

Thank you again to you and your family for playing your part. If we continue to stick to the guidance better days are not far away.

Your sincerely,



Kate Blackburn
Director of Public Health for Wiltshire



Helean Hughes
Director – Education & Skills, Wiltshire Council