

Chilwell Croft Academy

All different • All equal • All achieving

Chilwell Croft, Newtown, Birmingham, West Midlands, B19 2QH Telephone: 0121 464 3402 Fax: 0121 464 2088

Website: www.chilwellcroftacademy.com Headteacher: Dr George Koutsou

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Tuesday 10th December 2019

Dear Parents/Carers,

It is with regret that I am writing to inform you that unfortunately we have been advised by Public Health England to **close the school to pupils on Wednesday 11th December and Thursday 12th December due to an outbreak of diarrhoea and vomiting in our school community. During this period, the school will undergo a deep clean by professionals.**

With regards to the events scheduled on these days, the scheduled **parents evening** will still go ahead on the afternoon of Thursday 12th December so please ensure that you still attend at your allotted appointment times, entering through the main entrance.

Unfortunately, the scheduled **Music Concert and Parents Forum will be cancelled on Wednesday** and rearranged to the following week.

All children will be expected back in on Friday 13th December, when we will still be having a Christmas Jumper Day and Christmas Lunch for all pupils.

On the back of this letter, we have outlined some advice from Public Health England and what steps should be taken to prevent further spread of infection. We hope that by taking this measure, the chance of infection will be reduced within our children and we can finish the term on a high.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your continued support.

Yours Sincerely

Dr. Koutsou Head Teacher

Chilwell Croft Academy



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ADVICE FOR PARENTS ABOUT NOROVIRUS

We would be very grateful for the support of parents in helping us reduce the spread of the infection. If your child has symptoms of diarrhoea and or vomiting, please keep them at home until 48 hours after they are symptom free. During this time, they should not mix with other children outside the home or visit local venues.

Norovirus is commonly known as Winter Vomiting Disease and often occurs in the community and in schools and nurseries at this time of the year. If your child is ill, you may find the following information useful:

ADVICE FOR PARENTS ABOUT NOROVIRUS

What are the symptoms?

Diarrhoea and vomiting usually lasting 1 -2 days.

What should you do if your child is unwell?

Make sure they get lots of rest.

Ensure they drink plenty of fluids, taking sips rather than gulps to avoid vomiting.

Give infant Paracetamol or Ibuprofen, according to product instructions, to help keep their temperature down.

If your child is unusually sleepy, won't take fluids or has other symptoms, such as blood in their diarrhoea, an unusual rash, headache, neck stiffness or difficulty breathing, ring NHS Direct (0845 4647), contact your GP or take your child to hospital.

How can you prevent the spread of these infections?

Hand washing is one of the most important ways to prevent the spread of both of these infections. This applies to the child who is ill and the person looking after them. Hands should always be washed, using liquid soap if possible:

Before and after caring for your child

After using the toilet

Before eating or handling food

After cleaning up a mess (vomit, faeces or urine)

Keep a separate towel for family members who have symptoms

Dispose promptly of used tissues and other items that your child may have coughed or sneezed on

Wash soiled clothing, bed linen and towels in a washing machine. Use the hottest wash for that fabric. Clean baths and washbasins thoroughly and disinfect after use.