

Truro School COVID Steering Group Bulletin No.13 (11 Dec 2020)

Truro School has had another very good week without notification of any new Covid cases and hence no recourse to our Track, Trace or isolation procedures.

Covid Steering Group Updates from Week 12 (7 – 11 December):

1. **Thank you.** In what is the last CSG update of the term, I would like to thank pupils, parents and staff for responding so supportively to the measures we have put in place this term to ensure ongoing education alongside maximising safety.
2. **Covid-caution.** Please, as always, keep reinforcing the need for regular and thorough hand washing and adherence to safety guidance, including face coverings. As we enjoy a suitably festive last few days of term, we remain keen to keep safety at the forefront of our minds with the intention that the Christmas break will be one families can plan for without the need for extra isolation.
3. **Track and Trace after Term Ends.** The government has asked school leaders to be available to enact track and trace for up to six days after school terms end, should a positive case be reported to them. Thereafter, track and trace will be the responsibility of Public Health England and not the school. Truro School will adopt this approach. Should your child test positive on or before **Tuesday 22 December**, please contact us by telephone and/or via the CSG@truroschoo.com email address to alert us. If the first date of symptoms was 48 hours or less from the end of term we will lead the track and trace. If your child tests positive at any point in the holiday *after* Tuesday 22 December, please do still inform us via the CSG email, but school staff will not be available to lead on the track and trace and you should work directly with the NHS instead.
4. **Next Term.** The School's leadership team will finalise our Covid-safe planning for next term towards the end of the holiday period so that it can reflect the evolving local and national climate at that time. Our expectation currently is that we will seek to facilitate more school activities and opportunities, especially in terms of the co-curriculum, which are regional to us. We have also agreed to reintroduce our wellbeing and learning support dog, Bumble, in a Covid-safe way, so long as regulations still allow. At the same time, we are likely to retain high levels of Covid-safe measures for staff and pupils on site, at least until half term in February. This would be our response to what seems to be the national pattern of transmission rates declining as a result of phases of lockdown only to rise in the weeks after the easing of restrictions. January is likely, then, to be a month of potentially heightened risk of transmission compared to the Covid-free November/early December we have just enjoyed.

Looking ahead:

Ahead of my end of term letter to parents, I wish you all a peaceful and happy break, and hope that the vaccine roll out reaches members of our community as swiftly as possible in 2021.

Mr A Johnson