

# Viking Academy Trust

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Chilton Primary School  
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Dear Viking Parents & Carers,

Following my letter to you at the beginning of this week, I write with an update. My thanks to those of you that were able to complete the survey; it has been extremely beneficial for school leaders to read the views of our school communities.

As you can appreciate, feelings are very mixed as to the best course of action schools should take at this time however; what has been consistent, is the message coming from you – our parents – that you would like to be in control of making decisions as to what's best for your child.

The Government is unequivocal in its decision that all schools must remain open until the end of term and our three Viking schools will, of course, adhere to that.

Therefore, I share with you our intended pathway forward – one that looks to see our Viking family reach the end of this tumultuous term safely and will hopefully allow each of us to enter the holiday season, fit and well without needing to isolate from our loved ones:

- Chilton, RAPS and Upton will be open until the final day of this term: Friday 18<sup>th</sup> December.
- We will not penalise any family that decides to keep their child at home prior to Christmas
- We will provide daily 'live' contact with staff, Teams lessons and other learning opportunities for children remaining at home to ensure learning continues for everyone
- Christmas events have been moved in to next week to ensure no child misses out on the festive fun should they remain at home during the final week of term.
- Our health & safety measures remain rigorous & robust and see us continue to go above and beyond advice from PHE. However, as Thanet is now in 'Tier 3: Very High Alert', I stress again the importance of us working together as a community and the need to follow government & PHE guidance to ensure no one has to isolate over Christmas.

Any further details regarding the final two weeks of term will be shared by your child's school.

Thank you once again for your continued support and appreciation of the staff working tirelessly & selflessly in our schools. The strength of 'Viking spirit' is truly one of the silver linings coming out of the pandemic.

Be safe, be considerate and let's keep our community well... for Christmas and beyond!

Mrs M Lewis, Executive Headteacher

**'One Childhood One Chance'**



Chilton Primary School, Ramsgate Arts Primary School and Upton Junior School are operated by Viking Academy Trust which is a charitable company limited by guarantee and registered in England and Wales with company number 09449979. The Registered Office is at Chilton Primary School, Chilton Lane, Ramsgate, Kent, CT11 0LQ. Viking Academy Trust is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment.

## Government & PHE Guidance regarding self-isolation:

### What to do if your child develops symptoms of COVID 19

If your child develops symptoms of COVID-19, they must not come to school and should remain at home for at least **10 days** from the date when their symptoms appeared. Anyone with symptoms will be eligible for testing and this can be arranged via <https://www.nhs.uk/ask-for-a-coronavirus-test> or by calling 119.

All other household members who remain well, must stay at home and not leave the house for **14 days**. This includes anyone in your 'Support Bubble'.

Further information is available [clicking here](#) or visiting:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-stay-at-home-guidance/stay-at-home-guidance-for-households-with-possible-coronavirus-covid-19-infection>

The **14-day period starts from the day when the first person in the house became ill.**

**Household members should not go to work, school or public areas and exercise should be taken within the home.**

If you require help with buying groceries, other shopping or picking up medication, or walking a dog, you should ask friends or family. Alternatively, you can order your shopping online and medication by phone or online.

Household members staying at home for 14 days will greatly reduce the overall amount of infection the household could pass on to others in the community

If you are able, move any vulnerable individuals (such as the elderly and those with underlying health conditions) out of your home, to stay with friends or family for the duration of the home isolation period.

### Symptoms

The most common symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19) are recent onset of:

- a new continuous cough
- a high temperature
- a loss of, or change in, your normal sense of taste or smell (anosmia)

**For most people, coronavirus (COVID-19) will be a mild illness.**

If your child does develop symptoms, you can seek advice from the nhs.uk website at

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/check-if-you-have-coronavirus-symptoms/>. If you are concerned about your child's symptoms, or they are worsening you can seek advice from NHS 111 at <https://111.nhs.uk/> or by phoning 111.

### How to stop COVID-19 spreading

There are things you can do to help reduce the risk of you and anyone you live with getting ill with COVID-19

Do

- wash your hands with soap and water often – do this for at least 20 seconds
- use hand sanitiser gel if soap and water are not available
- wash your hands as soon as you get home
- cover your mouth and nose with a tissue or your sleeve (not your hands) when you cough or sneeze
- put used tissues in the bin immediately and wash your hands afterwards

**Further Information:** is available at <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/>

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