

12 July 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

Step 4 of the Covid-19 Roadmap in England

As you will have heard in the media, on July 19th 2021, the government is expecting to move to Step 4 of the Covid-19 Roadmap. This means that further restrictions are to be lifted and members of the public are expected to take personal responsibility for their actions. For schools, this is likely to mean that some of their current COVID-19 arrangements will change.

As many children in Salford will still be in school on July 19th, we are writing to you to give you important Public Health advice.

Due to the current high levels of Covid-19 in Salford, we are asking schools not to relax restrictions on July 19th but instead to introduce these new measures at the start of the new term in September. They will continue to operate under their current risk assessment and related health and safety procedures for the last few days of the Summer Term. This means, for example, that children will still be taught in designated bubbles, social distancing rules will be maintained and schools will still ask children to wear face covering where required. Schools will also be supporting children with regular handwashing and other hygiene requirements that help prevent the spread of the virus.

We will continue to support schools with Covid-19 testing for staff and for older students, either on site or at home and working with them to identify children who need to isolate as a result of either having Covid-19, or being a contact of another child or adult who has tested positive.

We hope that you will support us in our Public Health work to help keep everyone safe. By far the best form of protection against Covid-19 is to be fully vaccinated and if you have not yet done this, you should book an appointment as soon as possible via the NHS Portal at:

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/coronavirus-vaccination/book-coronavirus-vaccination/>

Everyone aged 18 years and over are eligible, and those aged 16-17 years who are carers or have a health condition. There are a number of walk-in vaccination clinics across Salford where you do not need to book.

<https://www.salford.gov.uk/people-communities-and-local-information/coronavirus/walk-in-vaccination-clinics-in-salford/>

Regular hand hygiene is one of the best ways to prevent the spread of illnesses. Where possible, you should continue to maintain social distancing, minimise contacts especially in crowded spaces, and continue to wear a face covering in shops and other public places. If your child is unwell, they should stay at home as there are a number of other viruses also circulating.

Yours sincerely



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