

ALLITHWAITE AND CARTMEL PARISH COUNCIL – COVID-19 NEWSLETTER – 28 AUGUST

(www.allithwaiteandcartmel.co.uk/)

GOVERNMENT GUIDANCE

Restrictions are under regular review by the government. Please find below some useful links to help you and your family stay safe:

[Latest Gov.uk advice](#) - Travel, FAQ's, Accessing green spaces & The countryside code

[Cumbria County Council - Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) Latest Information](#)

[Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) Local Communities](#)

[Face Coverings](#)

[Guidance for owners and operators of urban centres and green spaces to help social distancing](#)

[Working safely during coronavirus \(COVID-19\)](#)



Please keep up to date with the COVID-19 Outbreak Control by visiting Cumbria County Council's website [here](#).

This details current situation updates, Outbreak Control Plan, Cumbria weekly COVID-19 situation reports and Health Protection Board minutes.

SCHOOLS READY TO WELCOME PUPILS BACK SAFELY

Schools have received Public Health England endorsed guidance on protective measures they should implement to be as safe as possible and reduce the risk of transmission of coronavirus. The risk from COVID-19 is now significantly outweighed by the benefits for children's well-being, development and learning of getting back to school.

Measures such as staggered break times, increased hygiene and handwashing, and children remaining in consistent groups will all contribute to minimising risks, while allowing schools to get back to doing what they do best – teaching. School leaders are stressing that arrangements will vary between schools, based on their specific circumstances. Schools will explain arrangements to their parents and carers.

The government has delivered over £40 million in funding for local transport authorities to create alternative dedicated school transport to alleviate pressure on public transport. New guidance to support local authorities to manage capacity and reduce risk on school transport was published this week.

Parents are encouraged to visit www.cumbria.gov.uk/backtoschoolsafely for information and practical guidance to help them plan for their children's return to school.

CORONAVIRUS: DOMESTIC ABUSE



Women's Aid has published a report on the impact of the coronavirus pandemic on adult and child survivors of domestic abuse and the services supporting them.

The report includes a chapter on the impact of the pandemic on child survivors of domestic abuse. Findings include: 53% of respondents who were currently experiencing domestic abuse said their children had seen more abuse; and 38% said that their abuser had shown an increase in abusive behaviour towards the children.

ONLINE SAFETY

ThinkuKnow has released an education resource about online blackmail for 15-to 18-year-olds which aims to help young people: identify key characteristics of how blackmail operates online; understand the impact it can have; and know how to access help if they need it.



The term 'online blackmail' is used to refer to the act of threatening to share information about an individual (including sexual images or videos) to the public, or their friends and family, unless a demand is met.

If you are interested in learning more about the evidence base for this and similar approaches, it is recommended you read the research report 'Key Principles of Effective Preventative Education', downloadable from www.thinkuknow.co.uk/professionals.

TEENAGERS FALLING THROUGH THE GAPS



The Children's Commissioner for England has published a report looking at the impact of lockdown on teenagers in England, assessing the number of teenagers who were already vulnerable before the coronavirus outbreak.

There is an urgent need for local agencies – councils, schools, youth workers and police – to focus resources on teenagers at risk of becoming 'invisible' to services or who have gone missing under lockdown. These teens are easy prey to criminal gangs and abuse and are at very high risk of becoming not in education, employment, or training (NEET). Ensuring that they are able to recover from the crisis and have a way of getting back into education, training or work is vital.

The effects of this will have been particularly acute on the teenagers who were already vulnerable before Covid-19 especially those who were falling through the gaps and being missed by local services. With schools closed to most teenagers for half a year, and face-to-face children's social care provision being curbed, these teens risk becoming even more 'invisible' than before.

For further information: <https://www.childrenscommissioner.gov.uk/report/teenagers-falling-through-the-gaps/>

UPDATES TO TRAVEL CORRIDORS

Updates to the guidance in regard to travel corridors have been released by the Foreign and Commonwealth Office (FCO). The latest updates reflect changes to the list of countries and territories from where you can travel to from England and may not have to self-isolate.

To keep up to date, visit this link to the governments website: [here](#).



COUNCIL PUBLISHES SCHOOL TRANSPORT GUIDANCE FOR PARENTS AND PUPILS

Ahead of school's reopening in September, Cumbria County Council has published information and guidance for parents and pupils about arrangements on school transport to minimise the risk from COVID-19.

The full guidance is available at: www.cumbria.gov.uk/schooltransport.

The key messages for pupils and parents are:

- Only use school transport if there is no safe or practical alternative, such as walking or cycling.
- Social distancing will not apply on dedicated school transport.
- Face coverings should be worn wherever possible while travelling, however these will not be provided.
- Hand sanitiser will be provided on board all dedicated school transport vehicles and it should be used by pupils when getting on and getting off the bus.
- Children should try to sit within their school bubbles on vehicles, but this is not a requirement and will not always be possible.
- Schools may have arranged a seating plan on the vehicle, parents should ensure their child is aware of this, and follows the school instructions.

If parents do not intend to make use of a free or subsidised transport place for their child they should contact school.transport@cumbria.gov.uk providing the name, date of birth and school attended of the child in question.

#RespectSocialDistancing

The virus does not spread itself - it is only spread by people