



Dear parents/carers,

Thank you for your support over this past Autumn Term, and for following the advice and guidance that is helping to keep children, staff, and other members of our community safe. This has not been an easy time and we are extremely grateful for your help and co-operation.

Now that the Christmas holiday period is upon us, we want to make sure that we all have the Christmas we want (and deserve!) whilst also keeping safe. Cornwall has relatively low numbers of COVID-19 cases, and we want to keep it that way and avoid an increase going into 2021.

It can sometimes be difficult to keep up to date with all the guidance, so to help make things clearer we have compiled some Top Tips and FAQs to help over the last week of term and the Christmas period.

#### Top Tips for the final week:

- If your child develops symptoms of COVID-19, please let us know and get a test ASAP.
- If your child is unwell, please keep them at home!
- Try and limit the number of contacts your child has outside of school, this will help to reduce risk of transmission in the build up to Christmas.
- If your child does test positive or if you have concerns, please contact NHS 119.

#### Top Safety Tips for the Holiday:

- Remember, even though it is Christmas, COVID-19 has not gone away. The more people you see, the more likely you are to spread or catch COVID-19.
- To reduce the risk of spreading COVID-19 to friends and family, limit your contact with people you do not live with as much as possible in the 2 weeks before you form your Christmas bubble.
- Remember to socially distance as much as you can, keep washing your hands, open a window for ventilation, and clean frequently touched surfaces regularly.
- If you become unwell with symptoms of COVID-19, please get tested ASAP and isolate at home.
- If your child develops symptoms, please get a test ASAP. Notify us if they test positive and have been in school within 2 days of developing symptoms or testing positive if asymptomatic.

#### Christmas Bubble FAQs:

##### What is a Christmas bubble and how do we form one?

A Christmas bubble is a bubble formed from three households only, between the 23<sup>rd</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> December. These three households must agree to be each other's bubble as the households of the Christmas bubble cannot be changed. You should not form a Christmas bubble if you are self-isolating.

##### Can I travel to other areas with higher Tier restrictions to form a Christmas bubble?

Yes. You can travel to other areas with Tier 2 or 3 restrictions, as with all Christmas bubbles you must be careful to practice social distancing, keep rooms ventilated, clean frequently touched surfaces regularly, and wash your hands or sanitise often. Be sure to follow the rules of the higher tier the households are from. You should only travel between the 23<sup>rd</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup>.

#### Cornwall Council | Konsel Kernow

Building Name, Street Name, Town, Cornwall Postcode

E: [rachel.wigglesworth@cornwall.gov.uk](mailto:rachel.wigglesworth@cornwall.gov.uk) | T: 01872 322545

[www.cornwall.gov.uk](http://www.cornwall.gov.uk)

<b>Where can we meet our Christmas bubble?</b>
You can meet in your homes, private gardens, places of worship, or public outdoor spaces. You cannot meet in any other indoor setting, such as a pub, restaurant, hotel, or shop. In these settings, rules who you can and cannot meet depend on the tier. You must follow the guidance from the higher tier if households are from areas with two different tiers.
<b>Are existing support bubbles counted as one household towards the Christmas bubble?</b>
Yes. Existing support bubbles are considered as one household. So, if you are in a support bubble with one other household, you can still be part of the Christmas bubble formed with two additional households.
<b>I share custody with my child/children's other parent. Do they have to choose which Christmas bubble they are part of?</b>
No. For children who are under 18 whose parents do not live together they can be part of both parent's Christmas bubbles if parents choose to form separate bubbles. This is the only exception and nobody else should be in two bubbles.
<b>Can I still form a Christmas bubble if I have been asked to self-isolate?</b>
No. You must not form a Christmas bubble if you have symptoms or are self-isolating. You must follow the self-isolation rules which apply if you, someone you live with, someone in your childcare or support bubble, or someone you have been in contact with has symptoms or has tested positive for coronavirus.
<b>Can we form a Christmas bubble with someone who is clinically extremely vulnerable (CEV)?</b>
Yes, you can still form a Christmas bubble, but it does involve greater risk for those who are CEV. Risk of infection will be minimised if those who are CEV limit social contact with people that they do not live with. If you are forming a bubble with someone who is CEV, you should take extra precautions with hand washing, ventilation, cleaning, and social distancing, and limit your contact with others in the 2 weeks before forming the bubble.
<b>Who can we meet after the Christmas bubble period has ended?</b>
Once the Christmas bubble period ends on the 27 <sup>th</sup> , you should follow the rules of your Tier. It is recommended to try and limit contact with other people for 2 weeks after this to reduce the risk of spreading the virus.

Thank you again for your support and I wish you a merry Christmas and a healthy and happy new year.

Yours sincerely



Cllr Sally Hawken  
Cabinet Member for Children, Wellbeing &  
Public Health  
E-mail [sally.hawken@cornwallcouncillors.org.uk](mailto:sally.hawken@cornwallcouncillors.org.uk)



Rachel Wigglesworth  
Director of Public Health  
Wellbeing and Public Health  
Email: [rachel.wigglesworth@cornwall.gov.uk](mailto:rachel.wigglesworth@cornwall.gov.uk)