



Parents/Carers of Close Contacts of Covid-19

Date: 13-07-2021

Dear Parent/carers,

Advice for Child to Self-Isolate

We have been advised that there has been a positive test in your child's bubble, Year 2, for Covid-19 and we have identified your child has been in close contact with the affected case.

As the result is positive, in line with national guidance, your child must isolate until and including Sunday 18th July. Your child may return to school on Monday 19th July 2021.

Whilst isolating your child must not go to school or any public areas and must remain at home. Further details of what your child needs to do are in NHS Guidance:

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/testing-for-coronavirus/nhs-test-and-trace-if-youve-been-in-contact-with-a-person-who-has-coronavirus/>

We are requiring you to do this to reduce the further spread of Covid-19 to others in the community. If you need support with isolation, please contact your local Council.

Other members of your household can continue normal activities provided your child does not develop symptoms within the self-isolation period.

It is important that anyone identified as a close contact completes their 10 day period of isolation.

Individuals who have been in contact with someone who's tested positive can now access a free PCR test at <https://www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test> or by calling 119. You **do not** need to have symptoms to access this free test, simply request a test as you have been identified as a close contact of a confirmed case.

The advice to ask all close contacts to get tested is being given via NHS Test and Trace as well as local public health teams to prevent further onward transmission and detection of asymptomatic cases (those not displaying symptoms).

You should also access a free PCR test using the link above if your child or anyone in the household starts to display symptoms, and you will be advised following a positive result of a new isolation period.

If your child is well at the end of the period of self-isolation, then they can return to usual activities.

Legal Requirement to Isolate

Fines have been introduced for those breaching self-isolation rules, starting at £1,000.

This could increase to up to £10,000 for repeat offences and the most serious breaches, including for those preventing others from self-isolating.

When a person is notified by NHS Test and Trace that they or their child has tested positive for Covid-19, they, or their child are required by law to self-isolate for 10 days after their symptoms started or after the date of their test if they did not have symptoms. Other members of their household are also required by law to self-isolate for 10 days from the date when the member of the household who has tested positive showed symptoms of Covid-19, or from their test date if they did not have symptoms.

A person can be notified by NHS Test and Trace or by their Local Authority that they have been in close contact with someone outside of their household, who has tested positive for Covid-19, and they are legally required to self-isolate for a 10-day period which will end on the date they are given by NHS Test and Trace or by the Local Authority. The full period of self-isolation must be completed regardless of any negative Covid-19 test result or whether or not they have had symptoms of Covid-19.

What to Do If Your Child Develops Symptoms of COVID-19

For most people, especially children, COVID-19 will be a mild illness. The most common symptoms of COVID-19 are recent onset of:

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

If your child develops any of these symptoms of COVID-19, they should remain at home. At that time all other household members must also stay at home, not go to work, school or public areas, even for exercise.

Testing can be arranged by calling 119 or via the NHS website: nhs.uk/coronavirus

When the result of the child's test is known further advice will be available.

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:

- 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
- face coverings must be worn in indoor public places unless an exemption applies

Further Information

Further information is available at www.nhs.uk/coronavirus

Yours sincerely

N. Park
Headteacher

Tom Hall
Director of Public Health