



An Active Learning Trust School



**Artsmark
Gold Award**
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Council England

Our ref: GHO/SK
1 September 2021

Dear Parents/Carers

As restrictions are lifting our process in managing positive cases of Covid-19 has changed. Within this letter, you will find details of what to expect if the setting is notified of a **possible** or **confirmed** case of COVID-19 in the setting.

Where there is a possible case of coronavirus in the setting

If a child or member of staff develops symptoms of COVID-19, the individual concerned will be sent home. They will be asked to arrange a PCR test and to share the results with us.

Where there is a confirmed case of coronavirus in the setting

If a child or member of staff tests positive for COVID-19, they will be asked not to attend the school for at least 10 full days from the day after their symptoms appeared or, if asymptomatic, the date that the PCR test was taken.

Contact tracing will no longer be done by the school but by NHS Test and Trace. Our approach to isolation has changed as legally contacts who are double vaccinated * and under 18s are no longer required to self-isolate. They will however be advised to take a PCR test, and anyone who tests positive following the PCR test will still be legally required to self-isolate, even if they have been vaccinated. Children under five don't routinely test but may be requested to take a PCR test if they are a household contact and this will be informed by NHS Test and Trace. Unvaccinated close contacts aged 18 and over should self-isolate for 10 days from when the symptomatic person first had symptoms and should continue this period of isolation even if they too have been tested and have received a negative test result.

** A double vaccinated person must have had their second vaccine at least two weeks prior to coming into contact with the positive case.*

What you can do

If your child develops any of the following symptoms, we would ask that you **notify the school immediately** and arrange a test by visiting <https://www.nhs.uk/ask-for-a-coronavirus-test> or by phoning 119.

- A high temperature – this means feeling hot to touch on the chest or back
- A new, continuous cough – this means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours
- A loss or change to your sense of smell or taste

If the child has been PCR tested because they were showing symptoms and the test has come back negative, they can return to school once they are well. If they still feel unwell after a negative test they should stay at home until they feel better. If the child has been sick, has had a high temperature or diarrhoea, they must not return to the setting for at least 48 hours after symptoms last showed.

Thank you once again for all you are doing to keep our setting safe.

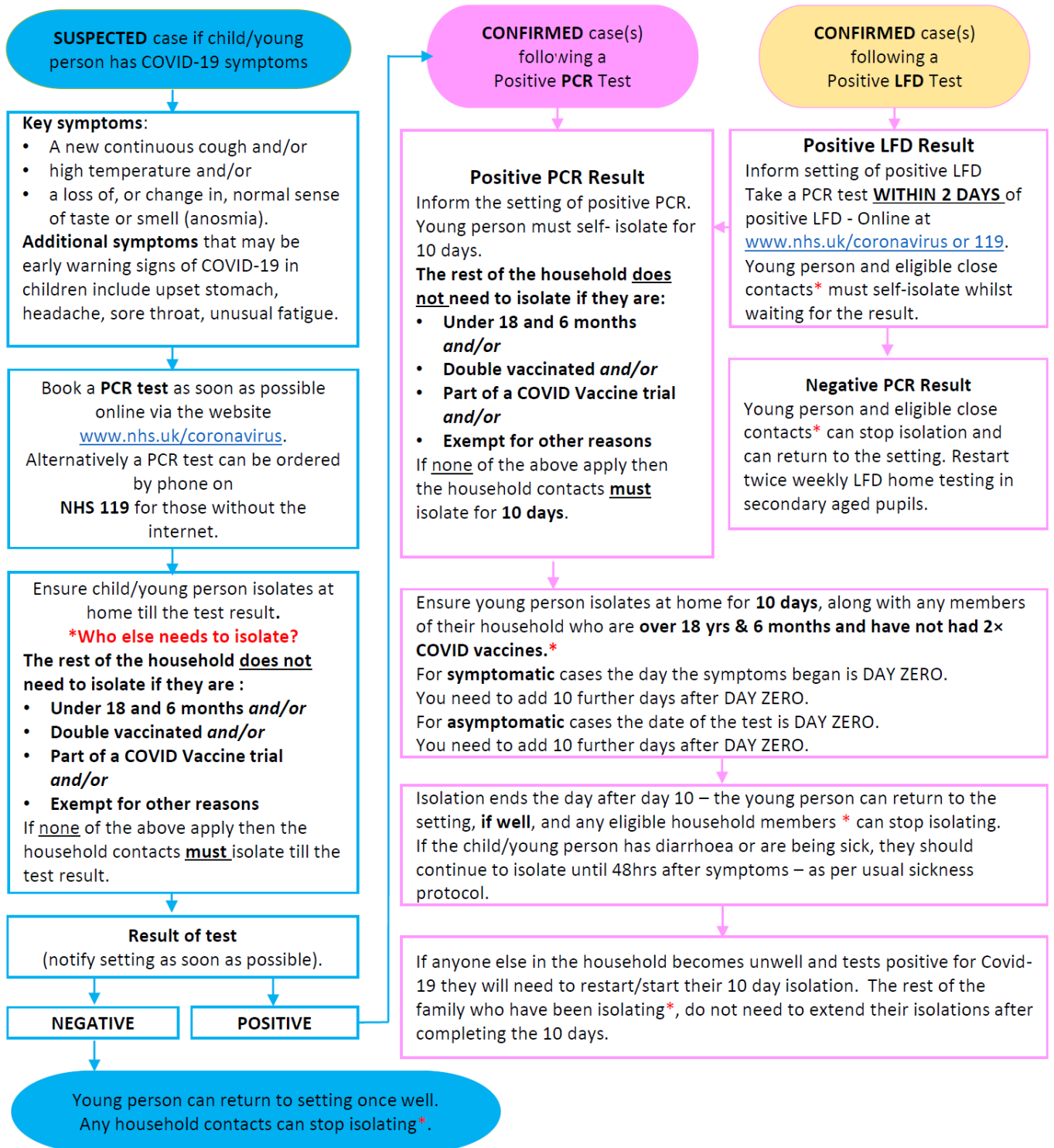
Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'G Horn', written in a cursive style.

Mr G Horn
Principal

COVID-19 Guidance for Parents/Carers from 16th August 2021

For any **SUSPECTED** or **CONFIRMED** case of COVID-19 in a child/young person please follow the flow chart below



- We continue to ask families/children to wash hands regularly, keep spaces well ventilated, wear face covering in crowded, public indoor areas.
- Face covering are to be worn on transport to and from educational settings.
- LFD test = Lateral Flow Device tests are rapid tests that can be used at home and the result is available after 30 minutes.
- PCR test = polymerase chain reaction test that can be booked online and is sent to a lab for the result.
- If you have recently (within 90 days) had a positive PCR test for COVID-19 you are exempt from testing by both PCR and LFD within 90 days of a positive PCR test result, unless you develop new symptoms.
- LFD tests are used for identifying Covid-19 infection where there are no symptoms. If you have symptoms book a PCR test.
- LFD tests are safe to use in pregnancy. They should not be used in children under 12 years (unless in secondary school).
- If you have had a COVID-19 vaccination you should still take part in the LFD testing as you may still transmit the virus.
- If you have been identified as a close contact * of a positive case, a negative LFD test does not mean you can stop isolating unless part of a workplace scheme.
- If you have had a recent nosebleed, or have a nose piercing use the other nostril to swab for the LFD test.