



0th September 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

I am writing to inform you that we have been notified of a confirmed case of COVID-19 within the school. Fortunately, thanks to the vigilance of our parent community, this pupil has not yet attended school this term, so there are no children who will have come into contact with the pupil in school time.

However, there are several pupils who are awaiting PCR test results due to either household members testing positive, or the pupils themselves showing Covid symptoms.

As with positive cases in other settings, and in line with national guidance, NHS Test and Trace will work with any individual who has tested positive to identify close contacts. This is no longer the responsibility of the school. However, at Rackham we have decided it is entirely appropriate to notify all parents of any positive cases within school, and we will telephone the parents of children who we might consider a close contact of a positive case. Our staff are keeping seating plans to help us with this potential eventuality so that it is easier for us to identify children who are close contacts.

If your child is identified as a close contact by NHS Test and Trace, they will contact you. Your child will be advised to take a PCR test at the earliest opportunity and will only be asked to isolate for 10 days if they test positive. If the test is negative, they may continue to attend school as normal. If a pupil is part of a household with a positive Covid case, it is necessary for us to ensure our pupils and staff members are not put at unnecessary risk and so we require all parents to alert us in these circumstances. I am sure we can all agree that it is important for us to know this information in order that we can ensure necessary steps are taken in school to protect our vulnerable and unvaccinated staff and pupils.

Children who are aged under 5 years old who are identified as close contacts would only be advised to take a PCR test if the positive case is in their own household.

Should your child develop symptoms (high temperature, a new continuous cough or a loss or change to their sense of smell or taste), please follow the stay at home guidance and let us know as soon as possible. Please remember that LFD tests are not suitable for Primary Aged children.

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

Yours sincerely,
Bridget Harrison