



Saint Thomas More R.C. Primary School

Headteacher, Joanne Butterworth, Deputy Headteacher: Anna Quigg
Assistant Headteacher: Sarah Dodd

Informing parents of a Positive case with a staff member

Tuesday 15th September 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

We have been made aware of a positive case of Covid 19 within our school community. It is a member of staff in Key Stage 1 and subsequently the department has to close until Monday 28th September.

Children in the other departments should attend as normal.

The isolation only effects the children in Key Stage 1 (Miss Jones, Mrs Weekes and Miss O'Donnell's classes).

It does not affect siblings in other year groups.

The Annex - as there has been no direct contact with the staff member this is not affected and will continue as normal.

St Thomas More R.C. Primary school is committed to keeping both children and staff members safe now they have returned to school. We would like to inform you about what our school will be doing and what we ask of you as parents or carers if your child or any member of your household shows symptoms of coronavirus (COVID19).

The most common symptoms of coronavirus (COVID19) are a recent start of any of the following

- A new continuous cough
- A high temperature (feel hot to touch on the chest or back)
- A loss or change in your normal sense of taste or smell

Please DO NOT send your child into school if:

- They are unwell in any way
- Anyone in the household is unwell, awaiting testing or their result, or has been tested positive.

What happens if a child becomes unwell at school with COVID 19 symptoms?

The child will be cared for until a parent or carer can arrive to collect them. You will be advised to get your child tested (details below), all members of the household will need to isolate until the result of the COVID test is known. The school will arrange any necessary cleaning.

How do I get a test for my child?

If your child is displaying symptoms of coronavirus (COVID 19), these are the details of how to book a test at the local walk-in testing site which is located at the sites below,

To book a test at one of the local walk-in testing centres below call free phone **0808 1964 100** or visit nhs.uk/coronavirus to book)

- Rochdale Town Hall, Packer Street.
- Market Place Car Park next to Middleton Arena, Old Hall Street, Middleton M24 1AG.

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Evesham Road, Alkington, Middleton, Manchester, M24 1PY.
Tel: 0161 643 7132, Email: Office@stthomasmorerc.rochdale.sch.uk



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- Heywood Civic Centre

The sites are open **from 8am to 8pm seven days a week** and you must arrive on foot, by bike or in a car. – Please do not use public transport to get to the site. Face coverings are mandatory for ages 3yrs and above, and must be worn at all times during visit to testing site.

Home testing

Home testing is aimed specifically at people who cannot get to test sites and can be arranged at <https://self-referral.test-for-coronavirus.service.gov.uk/>

A test can also be booked on the NHS website using the link below which provides you options for either a drive-through test, for which you or someone you live with must have a car to get to a regional test site or you can request for a home testing kit for yourself and anyone else you live with who has coronavirus symptoms. There is an identity check for home test kits.

<https://www.nhs.uk/ask-for-a-coronavirus-test>

Please ensure you inform the school when you have the test result, whether positive or negative.

What happens if a child, young person or staff member at the school has symptoms?

If anyone in school becomes unwell with a new, continuous cough or a high temperature, or has a loss of, or change in, their normal sense of taste or smell (anosmia), they must be sent home and book a test.

- The person should isolate for a minimum of 10 days, or until the test
- Members of their household should self-isolate for 14 days. The 14 days is the time it takes for symptoms to show if you have been infected.

If a child is awaiting collection, they should be moved, if possible, to a room where they can be isolated behind a closed door, depending on the age of the child and with appropriate adult supervision if required. Ideally, a window should be opened for ventilation. If it is not possible to isolate them, move them to an area which is at least 2 metres away from other people. The rest of the bubble need not be sent home unless the child or adult has a positive test result returned.

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

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Further Information

Further information is available at <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/>

I understand that you may find this news worrying, please remember that if you need to contact us you can via office@stthomasmorerc.rochdale.sch.uk or jbutterworth@stthomasmorerc.rochdale.sch.uk or aquigg@stthomasmorerc.rochdale.sch.uk or sdodd@stthomasmorerc.rochdale.sch.uk

I am sure you will all join me in wishing the individual a safe recovery

Please #StaySafe and look after each other.

Best wishes,

Mrs J Butterworth

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