



# *St Bernadette's Catholic Primary School*

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6<sup>th</sup> September 2020

Dear Parents,

This letter was to be sent out on Monday and posted on the website but it has come to my attention, today, that two children may be displaying symptoms of Covid-19. The procedures are the same as we put into place when the school had a previous suspected case. However, to clarify and to alleviate any fears or misunderstanding I am sending this out today.

## **Arrangements for dealing with a suspected Covid 19 case in school**

Whilst we are doing everything possible to keep our school community safe, parents need to be aware of the arrangements to deal with any suspected Covid 19 case.

If you are concerned that your child is showing any symptoms of Covid 19, you must keep your child at home, self-isolate and contact the school office to let us know about your concerns. You should [Book a Test](#) for your child and then we would ask your child not to attend school until such time as you have received the results of the test. **If the child has a sibling in school they must not attend school at this time. The class bubble or the bubble in which the sibling/s are in, do not need to stay off school. Once the results have been received, the school will then take action if necessary.** Please inform the school of the outcome of the test and then follow procedures

1. If a child tests negative, if they feel well and no longer have symptoms similar to coronavirus (COVID-19), they can stop self –isolating. They could still have another virus, such as a cold or flu – in which case it is still best to avoid contact with other people until they are better. Other members of their household can stop self-isolating.

2. If a child tests positive they should follow the [Guidance for households with possible or confirmed coronavirus \(COVID-19\) infection](#) and must continue to self-isolate for at least 10 days from the onset of their symptoms and then return to school if they do not have symptoms other than a cough or loss of sense of smell/taste. This is because a cough or anosmia can last for several weeks once the infection has gone. The 10-day period starts from the day when they first become ill. If they still have a high temperature, they should keep self-isolating until their temperature returns to normal. Other members of their household should continue self-isolating for the full 14 days. If the result of the test is POSITIVE, please contact the school as soon as possible, as we will need to take immediate action following the confirmation of any cases. We will work with Public Health, in Blackpool, to confirm our course of action. It is highly likely that those who have been in close contact with the person (class bubble) or others, will be sent home. We will advise your child to self-isolate for 14 days. If someone in a class bubble, that has been asked to self-isolate, develops symptoms themselves, within their 14-day isolation period, they should follow:

[Guidance for household with possible or confirmed coronavirus \(COVID-19\) INFECTION](#). They should get a test and if the test delivers a negative result, they must remain in isolation for the remainder of the 14-day isolation period. This is because they could still develop the coronavirus (COVID-19) within the remaining days.

If the test result is positive, they should inform school immediately, and isolate for at least 10 days from the onset of their symptoms (which could mean the self-isolation ends before or after the original 14-day isolation period). Their household should self-isolate for at least 14 days from when the symptomatic person first had symptoms, following the above link.

I would like to take the opportunity to remind parents that if your child is ill for any reason, please contact the school office on the first day of absence in the usual way.

### **Returning to school after a holiday abroad.**

If you have recently returned from a holiday abroad to a country which is on the government's list of destinations requiring quarantining, please do not send your child into school until the 14 day period has been completed. Please telephone

or email the school office to let us know that you are taking this action as soon as possible.

Yours faithfully,

*Alexis Satterthwaite*

Head Teacher