



Wallace Fields Junior School

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Year 5 Bubble Closure due to positive COVID 19 case

Advice to All Parents - Single case

Dear Parents and Carers,

We have been made aware of a single case of COVID 19 this afternoon within our Year 5 school community.

We know that you may find this news concerning but we are continuing to monitor the situation and are working closely with Public Health England. This letter is to inform you of the current situation and provide advice on how to support your child. Please be reassured that for most people, coronavirus (COVID-19) will be a mild illness.

The Year 5 'bubble' will close and not return until Wednesday 25th November at the earliest.

The school remains open for all other year group bubbles and your child should continue to attend as normal, if they remain well.

What is the definition of a 'contact'?

All staff and children in the setting who are identified as a 'contact' need to isolate and follow the government guidance 'Guidance for contacts of people with confirmed coronavirus (COVID-19) infection who do not live with the person': <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/guidance-for-contacts-of-people-with-possible-or-confirmed-coronavirus-covid-19-infection-who-do-not-live-with-the-person/guidance-for-contacts-of-people-with-possible-or-confirmed-coronavirus-covid-19-infection-who-do-not-live-with-the-person>

A 'contact' is a person who has been close to someone who has tested positive for COVID-19 anytime from two days before the person was symptomatic up to ten days from onset of symptoms (this is when they are infectious to others). For example, a contact can be:

- a person who has had face-to-face contact (within one metre), with someone who has tested positive for COVID-19, including:
 - being coughed on
 - having a face-to-face conversation within one metre for 15 minutes or more



- having skin-to-skin physical contact, or
- contact within one metre for one minute or longer without face-to-face contact.
- a person who has been within 2 metres of someone who has tested positive for COVID-19 for more than 15 minutes.

Should other year groups close too, especially if there is a household member of a 'contact' in another class?

We have been advised by Public Health England that other household members of a 'contact', for example, **an older brother or sister or a member of staff's son or daughter, DO NOT need to isolate.** This is stated in:

'Guidance for contacts of people with confirmed coronavirus (COVID-19) infection who do not live with the person': <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/guidance-for-contacts-of-people-with-possible-or-confirmed-coronavirus-covid-19-infection-who-do-not-live-with-the-person/guidance-for-contacts-of-people-with-possible-or-confirmed-coronavirus-covid-19-infection-who-do-not-live-with-the-person>

This means that any siblings of a child in Year 5, or children of staff members, who have been instructed to isolate, can come in to school as normal.

What to do if your child develops symptoms of COVID 19

If your child develops symptoms of COVID-19, they must not come to school and should remain at home for at least **10 days** from the date when their symptoms appeared. Anyone with symptoms will be eligible for testing and this can be arranged via <https://www.nhs.uk/ask-for-a-coronavirus-test> or by calling 119.

All other household members who remain well, must stay at home and not leave the house for 14 days. This includes anyone in your 'Support Bubble'.

Further information is available at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-stay-at-home-guidance/stay-at-home-guidance-for-households-with-possible-coronavirus-covid-19-infection>

The 14-day period starts from the day when the first person in the house became ill.

Household members should not go to work, school or public areas and exercise should be taken within the home.

If you require help with buying groceries, other shopping or picking up medication, or walking a dog, you should ask friends or family. Alternatively, you can order your shopping online and medication by phone or online.

Household members staying at home for 14 days will greatly reduce the overall amount of infection the household could pass on to others in the community

If you are able, move any vulnerable individuals (such as the elderly and those with underlying health conditions) out of your home, to stay with friends or family for the duration of the home isolation period.



Symptoms

The most common symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19) are recent onset of:

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

For most people, coronavirus (COVID-19) will be a mild illness.

If your child does develop symptoms, you can seek advice from the nhs.uk website at <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/check-if-you-have-coronavirus-symptoms/>. If you are concerned about your child's symptoms, or they are worsening you can seek advice from NHS 111 at <https://111.nhs.uk/> or by phoning 111.

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

Do

- 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

Further Information

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

Yours sincerely,

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