

**HEADTEACHER:** MR CARLTON BRAMWELL *BEd (Hons), MSc, NPQH*

Date: 19<sup>th</sup> October 2021

Dear Parent/ Carer,

In line with Public Health Advice and the school's Covid Outbreak Management Plan, we are writing to inform you that there are a small number of confirmed cases of COVID-19 within the school.

In line with the national guidance, children aged under 18 years are no longer required to self-isolate if they are a close contact of someone who has tested positive for COVID-19 so you child can continue to attend school provided they do not develop symptoms

You and other members of your household can also continue normal activities provided you do not develop symptoms.

**We would encourage your child and all members of your household to undertake a Lateral Flow Test (LFT) at home and continue testing twice weekly in line with guidance. Should an LFT produce a positive result, you should isolate and arrange a follow up PCR test.**

If your child has been in contact with someone who they know has tested positive with COVID-19, they are advised to get a PCR test, whether or not they have symptoms. If they do not have symptoms they do not need to isolate whilst awaiting the result.

If this test is positive, they must isolate for 10 days. PCR tests can be booked via <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/coronavirus-covid-19-getting-tested> or by calling 119.

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

Please note people should not need to be re-tested via an LFD test or PCR test within 90 days of a previous confirmed positive test, unless new symptoms develop, in which case they should book a PCR.

### **Please Note: Vaccination Update**

The NHS and SIAS have now confirmed dates for 12-15 Covid vaccinations of 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> December 2021 for our school. We encourage you to return the consent form indicating consent or not by Friday 5<sup>th</sup> November so that we can provide information to the vaccination team in preparation.

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## **What to do if your child develops symptoms of COVID-19**

If your child develops symptoms of COVID-19, they must isolate and you should arrange a test for your child via <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/coronavirus-covid-19-getting-tested> or by calling 119.

If the test result is positive, your child will be required to self-isolate for a period of 10 days from the day that their symptoms started. Please inform us if your child has a positive test result.

If your child's test result is negative, they can continue with their normal activities if they are well enough to do so.

Please visit the link to Public Health England's guidance for households with possible Covid-19 infections:

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

## **Symptoms of COVID-19**

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

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

However, sometimes, individuals may present with a wider range of symptoms. If you or your child feel newly unwell with Covid-19 symptoms, then we would advise you to access a PCR test in order to rule out the presence of COVID. For many people, coronavirus (COVID-19) will be a mild illness.

## **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 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;
- allow ventilation in the house through opening windows;
- put used tissues in the bin immediately and wash your hands afterwards.



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### **Test and Trace Support Payments**

If a person is asked to self-isolate by NHS Test and Trace and is on a low income, unable to work from home and will lose income as a result, they may be entitled to a payment of £500 from their local authority under the Test and Trace Support Payment scheme. This now applies to parents/ carers who cannot work from home and will lose income by self-isolating or staying at home to care for the child.

Further details are available via: <https://www.gov.uk/test-and-trace-support-payment>

### **Further Information**

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

Yours sincerely,

Carlton Bramwell

Headteacher