

Date 24/11/21

Covid 19 Update - For all parents / carers

Dear Parents/carers.

We are aware that there are children in school who have tested positive for coronavirus (COVID-19).

We are continuing to monitor the situation and like all other schools, we are following our local Public Health team advice. This letter is to inform you of the current situation, and to provide advice on how to support your child.

Please be reassured that for most people, COVID-19 will be a mild illness. If any pupils/staff have been identified as contacts of the confirmed case(s), they will be contacted by NHS Test and Trace and will be advised to take a Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR) test.

The school remains open, and your child should continue to attend if they remain well.

Please see the enclosed updated local Parent/Carer Flowchart for further information on:

- What to do if your child develops symptoms of COVID-19, or tests positive for COVID-19
- Instructions for people who live in the same household as someone who has tested positive for COVID-19, or who is symptomatic and is waiting for a PCR test result
- Information on self-isolation

This flowchart is also available on the **Coronavirus Page** of our website.

The Department for Education Contingency Framework describes the principles of managing local outbreaks of COVID-19 in education and childcare settings. Local authorities and directors of public health can recommend measures described in the contingency framework for individual education and childcare settings, if the number of positive cases increases substantially.

 As part of the response to COVID-19 cases in education settings the local Public Health team are recommending 7-days of daily testing with Lateral Flow Device (LFD) tests for children in Year 3 and above when somebody else in their home has tested positive. Transmission in household settings is very common, even when people are vaccinated.

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- Household contacts of a positive case who are in Year 3 and above are strongly encouraged to take a daily LFD test before school for 7 days
- They should attend only if their lateral flow test is negative.
- Lateral flow tests should be taken for 7 days from the date of the first COVID-19 symptoms in the household, or from the date of the first positive test if there were no symptoms.
- In addition to this, all household contacts of a positive case, including children in Year 2 and below, are encouraged to follow national guidance and to take a PCR test.
- People who have tested positive with a PCR test within the last 90 days do not need to participate in daily LFD testing or be re-tested with PCR. See link below for details of how and where to get LFD tests: <u>Rapid COVID tests</u>

The following measures will also help to reduce the risk of you, and anyone you live with becoming ill with COVID-19:

- Get vaccinated young people aged 12 and over can have their COVID-19
 vaccination through their school, at a local catch-up clinic, or by booking an appointment
 at a large vaccination centre. More information about the vaccination programme is
 available from COVID-19 Vaccine Information Book an appointment at one of the large
 vaccination centres by visiting Coronavirus (COVID-19) vaccination or by calling 119.
- Wash your hands with soap and water or use hand sanitiser regularly throughout the day.
- 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.
- Meet people outside and avoid crowded areas.
- Open doors and windows to let in fresh air if meeting people inside.
- Wear a face covering when it's hard to stay away from other people particularly indoors or in crowded places.

Yours sincerely,

Adam J.G. Campbell

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Headteacher