

Headteacher
Mrs Sophie Gosden



National Support School
designated by



National College for
Teaching & Leadership

15th September 2021

CORONAVIRUS - Updated Guidance

Dear Parent & Carers,

Now that the children are back to school, we wanted to update you on how to manage coronavirus symptoms and other mild illnesses which may affect your child.

CORONAVIRUS - Updated guidance September 2021 (for children under the age of 18 years)

The current guidance from the Department of Health is as follows.

If your child has any of the following symptoms:

- **Persistent cough**
- **Loss of sense of taste or smell**
- **High temperature**

Please isolate your child at home and order a PCR test. You can order this online or by calling 111.

If the test result is **negative** then your child can stop isolating and return to school.

If the test result is **positive** then your child should isolate for ten days. NHS track and trace will provide you with further guidance.

Please call the school to inform them that your child has a positive test result. However, they should follow the new guidance for those who have been in contact with a positive case (see below).

If your child has been in contact with a positive case:

Under the new guidance, your child **no longer needs to isolate** if they have been in contact with a positive case. However, they will need to have a PCR test which you can order online or by calling 111.

If the test result is **positive** then your child should isolate for ten days. Please call the school to inform that your child has a positive test result. NHS track and trace will provide you with further guidance.

If the test result is **negative** then your child can continue to attend school. If your child becomes mildly unwell during the ten days, they should have a PCR test (not a Lateral Flow) and isolate until the result is available.

Mild illness could be cold symptoms, a cough, a high temperature, diarrhoea or vomiting.

Please inform the school that the child is unwell and has been in contact with a positive case.

Headteacher



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Lateral Flow Tests:

A Lateral Flow Test is a test that can be taken when a person has no symptoms. It is not recommended if you have symptoms or if you have just been informed or know that you have been in contact with a positive case.

In this case, you should order a PCR test (see guidance above). Lateral Flow Tests are not recommended for primary school children although parents may choose to use these.

If your child has a lateral flow test and the result is **positive**, then your child will need to have PCR test to confirm the result. They should isolate until the result comes through. If the PCR test is negative then your child no longer needs to isolate.

If the PCR test result is **positive** then your child should isolate for ten days. Please call the school to inform them that your child has a positive test result. Under the new guidance, However, they should follow the new guidance for those who have been in contact with a positive case (see above).

VOMITING AND DIARRHOEA:

This type of virus is highly contagious and in a healthy child or adult is a mild illness which should only last a couple of days. However, it is important that **children who have symptoms should remain off school or nursery for 48 hours after the last episode of diarrhoea and vomiting to stop the spread of infection to other children or staff.**

If a member of your family is affected by the virus, they should stay away from vulnerable groups such as the very young or elderly, and not go into hospitals or GP surgeries.

Hand washing and Hygiene:

Please take some time to remind your children how important it is to wash their hands thoroughly after going to the toilet and before eating. It is inevitable that children will become ill at some point, however this will reduce their risk of catching and spreading any viruses.

Our premises team will continue to ensure the school's cleanliness is maintained according to strict infection control protocols.

If you have any concerns or questions regarding the above advice, please contact the School Office.

Kind Regards



Sophie Gosden
Headteacher