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*'For Learning That Lasts A Lifetime'*

24<sup>th</sup> November 2021

### **Advice to All Parents - warn and inform**

Dear Parents and Carers,

The text below is from a DfE model letter and is for your information.

I write to inform you that we currently have four confirmed cases of Covid-19 within the school population.

We know that you may find this concerning but we are continuing to monitor the situation and ensure the required controls are in place. This letter is to inform you of the current situation and provide advice on how to support your child.

Following the change in guidance on 19 July 2021, the school will continue to ensure confirmed cases of COVID-19 do not attend until the end of their self-isolation period but contact tracing within the school setting will no longer continue. To help prevent avoidable spread, we encourage staff and families to continue with LFT testing, to inform us of the result and to follow-up any positive results with a confirmatory PCR test. You may be contacted by NHS Test and Trace and asked to get a PCR test if your child has been identified as a close contact.

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

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

If your child develops symptoms of COVID-19 at any time, however mild, they must isolate and a PCR test for the person with symptoms (even if they have already taken a test) should be sought. Symptoms of COVID-19 are:

- A new, continuous cough, and/or
- A temperature, and/or
- A loss of, or change to, sense of taste and/or smell.

You can book a test through <https://www.nhs.uk/ask-for-a-coronavirus-test> or by calling 119.

If the test is negative, your child can return to school once they are well and have been fever free (without the support of paracetamol or Calpol) for at least 24 hours.

If the test is positive your household must self-isolate for 10 days from the date symptoms started, unless any of the following apply:

- you're fully vaccinated – this means 14 days have passed since your final dose of a COVID-19 vaccine given by the NHS
- you're under 18 years, 6 months old
- you're taking part or have taken part in a COVID-19 vaccine trial
- you're not able to get vaccinated for medical reasons



Even if you do not have symptoms, you should still:

- get a [PCR test on GOV.UK](#) to check if you have COVID-19
- follow advice on [how to avoid catching and spreading COVID-19](#)
- consider limiting contact with [people who are at higher risk from COVID-19](#)
- if symptoms develop, isolate and get tested

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>

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

Household members staying at home for 10 days will greatly reduce the overall amount of infection the household could pass on to others in the community

### **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
- Keep indoor spaces as well ventilated as possible – let the fresh air in, even if for a short period a day

### **Further Information**

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

Yours sincerely



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**Executive Headteacher**

