



Tuesday, 30 November 2021

Advice to All Parents – Covid 19 Outbreak & new face-covering guidance

Dear Parents,

We have been advised by Public Health England that there have been confirmed cases of COVID-19 within the school setting. **Under current guidance, we do not report every case to the school community. However, where there is a suspected 'outbreak', defined as 10% of a given group (e.g. a class), we will communicate this to the school community with the relevant guidance.**

We know that you may find this 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 school remains open and your child should continue to attend as normal if they remain well.

We would ask that families do not contact the school for further information in relation to this unless they are confirming an additional positive test or COVID 19 symptoms as:

- we have contacted all families directly that we believe we need to at this stage
- we are not able to reveal the identity of the case – directly or indirectly
- this letter provides a range of information and signposted information on next steps to be taken
- it will tie up already stretched resources within our medical and administration team

Positive case overview

	Classes	Guide and Action
Class	5EM	<p>There are currently 3 confirmed cases in 5EM. As this breaks the threshold of 10% of an identified group, this would be classed as an outbreak.</p> <p>As there is an increased chance of your child being a close contact of a confirmed case they should take a PCR test via Get a free PCR test to check if you have coronavirus (COVID-19) - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk) or by calling 119. When ordering a PCR test it is important to check the box (online) or tell 119 'I've been told to get a test by my health protection team' and not 'I've been told to get a test by my school or nursery'. Further guidance can be found at Guidance for contacts of people with confirmed coronavirus (COVID-19) infection who do not live with the person - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)</p> <p>Whilst waiting for a PCR test / PCR test result, your child should still attend school unless they develop covid symptoms</p>
Class	6NS	<p>There is currently 1 confirmed cases in 6NS. This has not broken the threshold to confirm an outbreak. However, we will monitor this closely and would advise all parents to be extra vigilant to Covid symptoms in their children and follow the guidance to isolate and take a PCR test if this is the case. Your child should still attend school unless they develop Covid symptoms.</p>



Wider School	All other classes	As there has been a confirmed outbreak in school, we will step up measures in the following areas: <ul style="list-style-type: none">cease large gatherings (assemblies) in a confined space for any class with confirmed cases. Assemblies will still be delivered via Microsoft Teams to classrooms as these are an important part of the curriculumensure children eat at set 'class tables' at lunch time to reduce mixing across classes within an indoor setting					
		As always, we will continue with the measures that are already in place <ul style="list-style-type: none">maintain good hygiene – regular hand-washing / sanitising and promotion of good respiratory hygiene 'catch it, bin it, kill it'maintain enhanced cleaning – especially of regular touch surfaces e.g. door handlesensure those with Covid symptoms isolate in line with government guidanceensure positive cases isolate in line with government guidancemaintain good ventilation in school – whilst maintaining a comfortable working environment					
Guide	Currently not of concern	Confirmed Case			Current Outbreak		
Current Class Status							
Year 3	3HG	3TH	3KM	3PB	3DH	3LB	
Year 4	4CR	4MP	4MC	4MH	4DG		
Year 5	5EM	5CL	5HH	5ML	5AL		
Year 6	6SJ	6NB	6NS	6EW	6RW	6PO	6AH

Face Coverings – New Guidance

The government have updated their guidance ([‘Schools COVID-19 operational guidance’](#)) on the use of face-coverings in school. For primary schools, this means

- Adults** (staff and visitors) should wear face coverings in communal areas in the school building
 - we ask all adults (unless exempt) to wear a face covering when entering the building and moving around school
- It is not advised that adults wear face coverings in the classroom
- Face coverings do not need to be worn outside – however, as always, adults are free to choose to wear one if they wish
- Health advice continues to be that **children** in primary schools **should not** be asked to wear face coverings

Face coverings help protect the wearer and others against the spread of infection because they cover the nose and mouth, which are the main confirmed sources of transmission of COVID-19. Thank you for your understanding and support of these measures.

What to do if your child develops symptoms of COVID-19 or tests positive for COVID-19

If your child develops symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19), they should get a PCR test and remain at home at least until the result is known. If negative, the child can end self-isolation; if positive,



the child should isolate until at least 10 days after their symptoms appeared. Symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19) are a new, continuous cough, or a high temperature, or a loss of, or change in, their normal sense of taste or smell (anosmia). If the child has a positive test result but do not have [symptoms](#), they should stay at home and self-isolate for 10 days from the date the positive test was taken. This isolation period will be extended if they go on to develop symptoms by counting 10 full days from the day following their symptom onset. Anyone with symptoms will be eligible for a PCR test (the normally available test type) and this can be arranged via [Get a free PCR test to check if you have coronavirus \(COVID-19\) - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#) or by calling 119.

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 coronavirus (COVID-19) spreading

There are things you can do to help reduce the risk of you and anyone you live with getting ill with coronavirus (COVID-19):

- get vaccinated – everyone aged 18 and over can [book COVID-19 vaccination appointments](#) now and 16-17 year olds are being offered 1 dose of the vaccination by 23 August
- 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 if aged 11 and over when it's hard to stay away from other people – particularly indoors or in crowded places
- participate in twice weekly LFD testing following national guidelines (recommended for 11 years and over). We encourage you to log your results here: <https://www.gov.uk/log-test-site-covid19-results>

Further Information

Further information is available at

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/>

Yours sincerely

Jez Himsworth
Deputy Head