



Progress in  
partnership  
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Dear Parent/Carer,

We have been notified that a member of the teaching team has tested positive for coronavirus (COVID-19) at our school. Your child has been identified as someone who is likely to have had contact with these individuals as part of a class or group. We know that you may find this concerning, however, we would like to reassure you that for most people, the Coronavirus will now be a mild illness.

The purpose of this letter is to inform you of the current situation, and to advise you on what to do next. We are monitoring the situation closely and are working with our local Public Health team to put temporary, additional measures in place to help to reduce the risk of onward transmission within our setting.

The Public Health team has advised that, as a precaution, all children within this group are recommended to have a Lateral Flow Device Test. All children can continue to attend school unless they develop symptoms of COVID-19 or are a sibling of a positive case.

We encourage household members that are aged 11 & over to implement or continue with twice weekly LFD tests to help identify cases promptly.

**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**

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 that have met a threshold for further action, the local Public Health team have advised that, where possible, any child/student who lives with a sibling who has tested positive in the last 10 days **should not go in to their education setting**, and should take a PCR test **3 to 5 days after the onset of symptoms, or the first positive test in the household (whichever was soonest)**. They should then stay away from their education setting until a negative test result is received. If the test result is positive, they must isolate for 10 days from the positive test result.
- Your child/student will be expected to participate in remote learning, and you will not be penalised for their absence from school in following this advice.
- If the PCR test is negative and the child/student is not displaying any symptoms, then they **must** return to their setting.

- Transmission between household members is very common and we are taking this additional measure to prevent further disruption in the setting from COVID-19.
- **Exceptions:** Please note that this advice does not apply to children who have had a positive PCR test in the last 90 days, nor those who have received at least one dose of COVID-19 vaccine more than 14 days ago. They should then only stay at home and get a test if they develop COVID-19 symptoms.
- This advice will be reviewed after 14 days, along with the other additional measures that the setting has put in place.

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

- Get vaccinated – everyone aged 18 and over can [book COVID-19 vaccination appointments](#) now . Those who are 16 or 17 years old can get vaccinated at a drop-in site. See <https://www.blmkccg.nhs.uk/drop-in> for clinic locations and times. The vaccination programme for 12-15-year-olds is now being rolled out through the School-Aged Immunisations Service.
- 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.
- 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 is available at: <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/>

As of 16th August 2021, [you are not required to self-isolate if you are a contact of someone who has tested positive for COVID-19](#) and any of the following apply:

- you are **fully vaccinated**
- you are below the age of 18 years 6 months
- you have taken part in or are currently part of an approved COVID-19 vaccine trial
- you are not able to get vaccinated for medical reasons

**Fully vaccinated** means that you have been vaccinated with an MHRA approved COVID-19 vaccine in the UK, and at least 14 days have passed since you received the recommended doses of that vaccine.

If your child does develop symptoms, you can seek advice from the NHS.UK website. If you concerned about your child's symptoms , or they are worsening you can seek advice from NHS 111 or by visiting <https://111.nhs.uk>

As always, thank you for your continued support and co-operation.

Yours sincerely

*Aileen Russell*

Ms. Aileen Russell  
Headteacher