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Learning Together to be the best we can.

Dear Parent,

24th November 2021

Advice for Children close contacts of positive COVID-19 cases

We have been advised that there has been a confirmed case of COVID-19 within our school.

We have identified that your child may have been in close contact with the affected case. In line with the local guidance we recommend that your child has a PCR test (if they have not tested positive in the last 90 days). Please book online at: <https://www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test> It may be that you will need to order a home test kit, if a test centre appointment is not available.

We would strongly encourage parents to take up a PCR test for their child in order to provide us with a clear picture of the situation in our setting, and take the correct measures to prevent the spread of infection.

Your child, and other members of your household can continue normal activities, including coming to school, provided your child does not develop symptoms whilst awaiting the PCR result.

In addition to the PCR test, we are advising children and parents to undertake lateral flow tests twice weekly (unless they have tested positive in the last 90 days) For information regarding access to lateral flow tests see:

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/testing/regular-rapid-coronavirus-tests-if-you-do-not-have-symptoms/>

Should the PCR (or any lateral flow testing) yield a positive result, we would ask that your child isolate, with your household, and follow national "Stay at Home" guidance:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-stay-at-home-guidance>

We are asking you to do this to reduce the further spread of COVID 19 to others in the community. If you need support with isolation, please contact your local Council on 0800 408 1447.

Please see below guidance for if your child/anyone in the household develops COVID-19 symptoms.

What to do if your child develops symptoms of COVID 19

For most people, especially children, COVID-19 will be a mild illness.



The most common symptoms of COVID-19 are recent onset of:

- new continuous cough and/or
- high temperature and/or
- a loss of, or change in, normal sense of taste or smell (anosmia)

If your child develops any of these symptoms of COVID-19, they should remain at home and arrangements should be made for them to be tested. This should be an NHS PCR test and **NOT** a rapid test taken at a community testing site (an LFT test). At that time, household members who are over 18 years and 6 months and **not fully vaccinated**, must also stay at home, not go to work, school or public areas, even for exercise.

Testing can be arranged online: <https://www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test>

When the result of the child's test is known further advice will be available.

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:

- 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

Further information

Further information is available at [nhs.uk/coronavirus](https://www.nhs.uk/coronavirus)

Yours sincerely



Mrs J Forshew