

4 October 2021

Dear Parent/Carer

We have been made aware of several members of our setting who have tested positive for COVID 19. We are continuing to monitor the situation and are working closely with our local Public Health team. 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. If any children have been identified as contacts of the confirmed case(s), they will be contacted by NHS Test and Trace and will be advised to take a PCR test.

Our setting remains open and your child should continue to attend if they remain well. All parents/carers are advised to continue with the routine twice weekly asymptomatic Lateral Flow Device COVID-19 testing of those aged 11 and above in the household.

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

Typical 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 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 the PCR test is negative, the child can end self-isolation and return to the setting
- If the PCR test is positive, the child should isolate until at least 10 days after their symptoms appeared.

Please note that we have seen that additional symptoms of an upset stomach, runny nose, headache, sore throat or unusual fatigue (tiredness) could be early warning signs of a potential COVID-19 infection. We advise that children with these symptoms should be kept at home, and a PCR test should be booked if any of the typical COVID-19 symptoms appear (see above). If further symptoms don't arise then the child can return to the setting when they are well.

If your child does develop COVID-19 symptoms, you can seek advice from the NHS 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 should contact NHS 111 at <https://111.nhs.uk/> or by phoning 111.

Instructions for people who live in the same household as someone with COVID-19 (tested positive or symptomatic awaiting a test result)

From 16 August, [you will not be 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.

Any member of the household who is aged 18 years and 6 months or over and is not fully vaccinated will still be required to self-isolate if they are a close contact of a someone with COVID-19 symptoms who is awaiting testing, or a close contact of someone who has tested positive for COVID-19.

Household members who are not exempt from isolation should not go to work, school or public areas, and exercise should be taken within the home. Please read the [stay at home guidance](#) for more information on this.

Those who are [clinically extremely vulnerable](#) should be supported to minimise their contact with other people in the household during this period, regardless of whether others have symptoms or not.

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 . 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.
- 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

Please see enclosed local Parent/Carer Flowchart.

Further information is available at

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

Yours faithfully



Mrs McMorn
Head of School