



Monday 28th February 2022

Welcome back everybody and I hope you had an enjoyable half term.

Updated guidance around Covid-19 came into place on February 24th. Whilst there is no longer a legal requirement for people with Covid-19 to isolate, the updated Department for Education guidance outlines continuation of the previous isolation measures in schools to effectively manage risk to others.

Therefore, pupils and staff who have tested positive are to stay at home and can return to school once they are well **and** have completed the recommended isolation period.

If your child develops symptoms of Covid-19, such as:

- a high temperature this means you feel hot to touch on your chest or back (you do not need to measure your temperature)
- a new, continuous cough – this means coughing a lot, for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours
- a loss or change to sense of smell or taste – this means they cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal,

they should get a PCR test (<https://www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test> or call 119) and remain at home at least until the result is known and they are fever free (without medication) for at least 24 hours.

If a child in school presents as unwell with other symptoms and we believe they have been in contact with other children who have tested positive you may be asked to collect your child and advised to seek a test.

If negative, the child can end self-isolation and return to school/nursery/college once well

If positive, the child should isolate as a positive case (see below)

People who test positive for COVID-19 should self-isolate at home until they are well enough to return, no longer have a temperature and either:

- 10 full days have passed, or
- They have produced two negative LFD tests on consecutive days, with the first taken no earlier than day 5.

Lingering coughs and changes to smell/taste are not a sign of ongoing infectiousness, so children can return to school if they have ended their self-isolation period (see above). If your child does not have symptoms, count the day they took the test as day 0.

To protect other pupils and staff from possible infection with Covid-19, please be aware that if a parent or carer insists on a pupil with confirmed or suspected of Covid-19 attending school will refuse the pupil.

Mask wearing on school site

Until further notice, please can all parents, carers and other visitors continue to wear a mask on the school site, outside and inside.

Thank you in advance for your understanding and support of these measures to keep children and staff safe and staff well to teach the children.

Best wishes, *Jeremy Cooper*