

## ST CHAD'S PATCHWAY CE VC PRIMARY SCHOOL

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8<sup>th</sup> July 2021

### **Advice to All Parents**

Dear Parents,

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

We know that you may find this concerning but we are continuing to monitor the situation and are working closely with Public Health. 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 Covid-19 will be a mild illness.

The children and staff who have been in close contact with the individual who has tested positive for Covid-19 have received a letter informing them that their child must stay at home up to and including Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> July.

The school remains open and your child should continue to attend as normal if they remain well and you have not been contacted to get them to isolate.

I must reiterate that these rules are mandated to us as a school. This is not down to us; we have no option but to follow the expectations currently in place. The safety of your children, your family and our school community is of paramount importance to us. The rates of transmission are very high at the moment and acting quickly will hopefully mean that we will be able to avoid any further cases and/or whole school closures that have happened to other schools in our area recently. Having said that, whilst we operate a tight risk assessment and endeavour to do everything we can to reduce the risk, we are not able to mitigate everything hence the situation we are in. In line with other local schools, we will continue to implement our current risk assessment until the end of term in the hope that we can avoid further isolation for children at the end of term or into their school holidays. We are disappointed that we are in these circumstances and truly wish they were different.



## What to do if your child develops symptoms of Covid-19

If your child develops symptoms of Covid-19, they must not come to school and should remain at home for at least **10 days** from the date when their symptoms appeared. Anyone with symptoms will be eligible for a PCR test (the normally available test type) and this can be arranged via <https://www.nhs.uk/ask-for-a-coronavirus-test> or by calling 119.

All other household members who remain well, must stay at home and not leave the house for 10 days. This includes anyone in your 'Support Bubble'.

Further information is available at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-stay-at-home-guidance/stay-at-home-guidance-for-households-with-possible-coronavirus-covid-19-infection>

The household isolation period includes the day the first person in your household's symptoms started (or the day their test was taken if they did not have symptoms) and the next 10 full days. This means that if, for example, your 10 day isolation period starts on the 15th of the month, your isolation period ends at 23:59 hrs on the 25th and you can return to your normal routine.

Household members should not go to work, school or public areas and exercise should be taken within the home.

If you require help with buying groceries, other shopping or picking up medication, or walking a dog, you should ask friends or family. Alternatively, you can order your shopping online and medication by phone or online.

Household members staying at home for 10 days will greatly reduce the overall amount of infection the household could pass on to others in the community

If you are able, move any vulnerable individuals (such as the elderly and those with underlying health conditions) out of your home, to stay with friends or family for the duration of the home isolation period.

## Symptoms

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

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



**For most people, 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 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

*Do*

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

Yours sincerely,

Steph Jenkins  
Headteacher

