

ST CHAD'S PATCHWAY CE VC PRIMARY SCHOOL

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Cranham Drive
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Monday 18th October 2021

Re: Outbreak of positive Covid cases in Year 6

Dear Parents/Carers,

I am writing to update you about the current situation in school regarding positive Covid cases. We have been advised that there has been confirmed cases of Covid-19 within school and as a result, we have reached Outbreak Management in Year 6, where we have had 6 positive cases. Please note that school specific actions and control measures that have been implemented are discussed towards the end of the letter. There are some important changes this week for parents to consider.

We know that you may find this concerning but we are continuing to monitor the situation and are working closely with Public Health England. 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.

The school remains open and your child should continue to attend as normal if they remain well. We encourage household members that are aged 11 and over to test using LFD testing to help identify cases promptly. If you think your child is a close contact but has not been contacted directly by NHS Test and Trace please follow the guidance here: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/guidance-for-contacts-of-people-with-possible-or-confirmed-coronavirus-covid-19-infection-who-do-not-live-with-the-person/guidance-for-contacts-of-people-with-possible-or-confirmed-coronavirus-covid-19-infection-who-do-not-live-with-the-person#i-think-i-have-had-contact-with-someone-who-has-tested-positive-for-covid-19-but-i-have-not-been-notified-and-advised-to-self-isolate-what-should-i-do>

If your child is a contact of a positive case you can arrange for them to take a PCR test, even if they do not have symptoms, because they may be at higher risk of being infected. Children aged 4 and under who are close contacts will not be advised to take a PCR test unless the positive case is someone in their own household.

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

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 negative, the child can end self-isolation; if positive, the child should isolate until at least 10 days after their symptoms appeared. 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 the child has a positive test result but do not have [symptoms](#), they should stay at home and self-isolate for 10 days from the date the positive test was taken. This isolation



period will be extended if they go on to develop symptoms by counting 10 full days from the day following their symptom onset. Anyone with symptoms will be eligible for a PCR test (the normally available test type) and this can be arranged via [Get a free PCR test to check if you have coronavirus \(COVID-19\) - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#) or by calling 119.

For most people, coronavirus (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 still 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
- meet people outside and avoid crowded areas
- open doors and windows to let in fresh air if meeting people inside
- wear a face covering if aged 11 and over 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>
- get vaccinated if you are able to – everyone aged 16 and over can [book COVID-19 vaccination appointments](#) or find out local information [here](#)

St Chad's Actions and further measures implemented

We have added additional measures to help mitigate the risk of transmission further and a meeting has been held with Public Health and the South Gloucestershire Education Team to agree a plan for this week. I want to reassure you that we continue to monitor the situation and will be holding further conversations with Public Health over the next few days to assess if there are further measures that need to be implemented.

As always, we ask that any children with symptoms remain at home, isolate and get a PCR test. Please notify us of the outcome as soon as possible. If your child is isolating and is also pupil premium, they are entitled to receive a packed lunch from the school kitchen so please let us know if you wish to organise one of these. We will also provide home learning so please dojo the class teacher to discuss this.

Following the meeting with Public Health and the South Gloucestershire Education Team, we have put the following additional measures into place for this week:





We have been asked that **year 6 families** revert back to a staggered start and finish time so from tomorrow until Friday, please could **Year 6 children and their siblings arrive at school at 8.30am and be collected at 3pm from the green gate by the office**. We also ask that all families leave the school grounds as soon as possible at the beginning and end of the day. We apologise for the inconvenience but continue to strive to protect the safety of the whole community.

Staff will continue to carry out Lateral Flow tests (in Upper Key Stage Two, they are advised to do this daily for the week).

Year 6 has been deep cleaned and the whole school will receive an enhanced clean daily after school.

Year 6 will use individual resource packs this week rather than share.

Year 5/6 will have their lunch in the classroom this week to limit the amount of indoor mixing with other year groups. Classes will not have meet ups for activities such as buddies this week, which involve cohort mixing indoors.

Please note that the football club after school on Wednesday and Thursday delivered by Swift Sports has also been cancelled; Swift will provide further information on this.

All staff will wear face coverings in corridors and communal areas.

There will be an increase in outdoor learning opportunities where possible and if weather allows.

Increased ventilation breaks will be incorporated.

Unfortunately, we need to limit the number of additional people on site so we will not be able to have volunteers coming in this week. Apologies for this.

Collective Worship for the whole school will take place in classes.

Parent consultations on Tuesday 19th and Wednesday 20th October

Following advice, ALL parent consultations will now be virtual via the School Cloud app that you signed up on.

<https://scpce.schoolcloud.co.uk/>

Please log in at the time you selected. Please note that School Cloud operates with a strict 10 minute slot and it will cut off after 10 minutes and move to the next parent. Please check you are able to log in and let us know urgently if you unable to access the app so that we can make sure things are accessible by tomorrow afternoon.

We will continue to monitor the situation in consultation with Public Health England and South Glos Education department. We will update you should further changes need to be made.

Thank you for your continued support and working with us for the safety of the whole community.

Kind regards,

Steph Jenkins
Headteacher
(Further advice below if needed)



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.

NHS Test and Trace will contact you to let you know that you have been identified as a contact and check whether you are legally required to self-isolate. If you are not legally required to self-isolate, you will be provided with advice on testing and given guidance on preventing the spread of COVID-19. Even if you do not have symptoms, [you will be advised to have a PCR test as soon as possible](#).

Any member of the household who is aged 18 years and 6 months or over and has only received one dose of COVID-19 vaccine or has not received any dose of the COVID-19 vaccination will still be required to self-isolate as household contact of a someone with COVID-19 symptoms awaiting testing and someone who has tested positive for COVID-19. Please read the [stay at home guidance](#) which provides information on this.

Household members who are not exempt from isolation as close contacts should not go to work, school/college/childcare/education setting 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.

You could be fined if you do not self-isolate following a notification by NHS Test and Trace. You may be entitled to a one-off payment of £500 through the [NHS Test and Trace Support Payment scheme](#) if you are required to stay at home and self-isolate or you are the parent or guardian of a child who has been told to self-isolate.

Instructions for household contacts who are not required to self-isolate from 16 August

Even if you are vaccinated, you can still be infected with COVID-19 and pass it on to others. If you are identified as a contact of someone with COVID-19 but you are not required to self-isolate, you can help protect others by following the [guidance on how to stay safe and help prevent the spread](#). Child close contacts not required to self-isolate should continue to attend the educational setting as normal. As well as getting a PCR test, you may also consider:

- limiting close contact with other people outside your household, especially in enclosed spaces (when not in school)
- wearing a face covering for those aged 11 and over in crowded places such as school/college/public transport
- limiting contact with anyone who is clinically extremely vulnerable
- taking part in [regular LFD testing if aged 11 years old and older](#)

You should follow this advice while the person in your household with COVID-19 is self-isolating.

If you develop [symptoms](#) at any time, even if these are mild, self-isolate immediately, [arrange to have a COVID-19 PCR test](#) and follow the [guidance for people with COVID-19 symptoms](#).

