



Smithy Lane
Claughton-on-Brock
PRESTON
PR3 0PN

'a small school with a big heart'

21st November 2021

Dear parent or guardian,

The health and wellbeing of our children, staff and families remains our highest priority and we appreciate the support and understanding you have provided during this pandemic.

This week several positive cases of Covid-19 have been reported to the school. Considering this, we would like to emphasise some key points to help us manage this so we can minimise disruption to education. The government guidance states:

Household contacts who are not required to self-isolate

You are not required to self-isolate if you live in the same household as someone with 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

You should not arrange to have a PCR test if you have previously received a positive PCR test result in the last 90 days, unless you develop any new symptoms of COVID-19, as it is possible for PCR tests to remain positive for some time after COVID-19 infection.

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.

If you live in the same household as someone with COVID-19

Stay at home and self-isolate. If you are fully vaccinated or aged under 18 years and 6 months, you are not required to self-isolate if you live in the same household as someone with COVID-19. See the section below for more information. If you have only received one dose of COVID-19 vaccine, you are still required to self-isolate.

Children and young people aged under 18 years 6 months who usually attend an education or childcare setting and who have been identified as a close contact should continue to attend the setting as normal. They do not need to wear a face covering within the setting, but it is expected and recommended that these are worn when travelling on public or dedicated transport. 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. If you take an LFD test and the result is positive, you should also self-isolate and arrange to have a PCR test.

In line with the guidance, this also includes:

1. Notifying us as soon as possible if your child has had a positive Covid-19 test .
2. Making sure, if your child has symptoms of Covid-19 they isolate and book a PCR test immediately, then follow the advice given when you get the result.
3. If your child has other symptoms or is not feeling well, then they must stay away from school as normal if they are unwell and book a PCR test.

Frequently Asked Questions

Q: What are the symptoms?

A: The main symptoms are:

- New, continuous cough
- High temperature
- Loss of or change to your sense of smell or taste.

Other symptoms include:

- Extreme Fatigue
- Myalgia (Muscle ache)
- Sore throat
- Shortness of Breath
- Severe persistent headache lasting >24 hours
- Diarrhoea

However, these are similar to lots of other common illnesses. The only way you can be sure if someone has coronavirus is to test them. Read more about symptoms of COVID-19 at nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/.

You can book a test online and click the option that says: "My local council or health protection team has asked me (or someone I live with) to get a test, even though I do not have symptoms." If the result is positive, your child will need to isolate as per guidance.

Due to the number of positive cases in school, where cases continue to increase, we are applying additional measures based on our risk assessment and discussion with our Public Health Outbreak Team to minimise the transmission across school, this includes:

1. Advising all necessary visitors to wear face masks in corridors or when moving around school/driving the minibus.

If your child uses the free bus service, we strongly urge you to drop off and collect your child from school to reduce the transmission of the virus. Please respond to this letter to let school know your intentions.

2. Staff to social distance through the school day, where possible.

3. Temporarily stopping face to face assemblies and visits.
4. Support children at home with online learning, set via Seesaw.
5. Temporarily stopping children from Class 1 and Class 2 mixing, where possible throughout the day.
6. Temporarily stopping all clubs, where children from each class mix (Judo breakfast club). The club will be cancelled this week and will be reviewed next week. The costs of the breakfast club will either be reimbursed or alternative dates will be arranged. More information on this will follow. We will of course continue with our enhanced cleaning, ventilation and hygiene measures.

Thank you for your continued support and understanding. If you have any questions about these measures, please contact the school office.

Yours faithfully

Mr J. Gilmour

Head of School

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