

8 July 2021

Advice to All Parents - More than one case in school.

Dear Parents/Carers,

We have been advised by Public Health that there has been more than one confirmed case of COVID-19 within the school. The cases are currently considered to be unconnected.

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 you with advice on how to support your child. Please be reassured that for most people, COVID-19 will be a mild illness.

The school is open and **providing your child remains well they can continue to attend school as normal.** We will keep this under review.

For each confirmed case, Worcestershire Public Health undertake a robust risk assessment with the school to identify the contacts in school of any confirmed case taking into account the protective measures the school have put in place and the activities during the infectious period for the case. The aim of the risk assessment is to ensure all contacts are identified and preventive measures are put in place whilst minimising the educational impact on pupils. The school has implemented COVID protective measures and controls to reduce mixing of pupils to prevent whole bubbles being collapsed unnecessarily. In some instances only identifiable close contacts are asked to self-isolate, in other situations the risk assessment may indicate the whole bubble needs to self-isolate, this approach reduces the numbers of pupils having to self-isolate at home for 10 days.

What to do if your child develops symptoms of COVID 19

If your child develops any of the symptoms of COVID-19, they should remain at home for **at least 10 days from the date when their symptoms started.** Anyone with the symptoms is eligible for testing and should arrange for this via <https://www.nhs.uk/ask-for-a-coronavirus-test> or by calling 119.

All other household members even if well must stay at home and not leave the house for 10 days.

The 10-day period starts from the day when the first person in the house became ill.

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

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

If your child has symptoms, try and keep them as far away from other members of your household as possible. It is especially important that they stay away from anyone who is clinically vulnerable or clinically extremely vulnerable with whom you share a household.

Symptoms

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

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

For most people, cCOVID-19 will be a mild illness.

If your child or anyone in the household does develop symptoms, you can seek advice from NHS 111 at <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/check-if-you-have-coronavirus-symptoms/> 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/>

The family guide to self-isolation can be found here:

https://www.worcestershire.gov.uk/info/20773/coronavirus_covid-19_advice_for_parents_and_carers/2222/coronavirus_covid-19_coping_with_school_closures_and_isolation

Support for those self-isolating or vulnerable as a result of COVID-19 can be accessed through Here2Help:

<https://www.worcestershire.gov.uk/here2help> or 01905 768053 then press option 3. The Here2Help opening hours are Monday to Thursday 9.00am to 5.00pm and Friday 9.00am to 4.30pm.

Yours sincerely,



Mr Hadley-Pryce - Headteacher