



## COVID-19 Parent Questions and Answers - September 2021

**National Guidance States:** People who have been fully vaccinated are no longer having to self-isolate if they are a contact of a positive case; those under 18 years of age also no longer need to self-isolate if they are a contact of a positive case.

We hope to avoid any outbreaks and ask families to support us in the approaches. Please read this guide carefully.

If my child has symptoms, can they come to school?

No. They should remain at home. The child with symptoms should get a PCR test. If positive, they will need to self-isolate for a full 10 days. If negative and they are well, they can then return to school.

If someone else in the household has symptoms, can my child come to school?

Yes. The child can continue to attend school if they have no symptoms. The person with symptoms should get a test and should self-isolate while they wait for the result.

If someone in the household tests positive, can my child come to school?

Yes. However, they should access a PCR straight away. Parents may prefer to keep the child off until the PCR result comes back.

If my child is identified as a close contact from the community, can they come to school?

Yes- if they do not have symptoms. The child should still get a PCR test straight away. Although they can continue coming to school, parents may prefer to keep the child off until the PCR result comes back.

If someone in the class has symptoms, what happens?

The child will be sent home and must get a PCR test and self-isolate while waiting for the results. The other children in the class will



continue to attend school.

## If someone in the class tests positive, what happens?

That child will self-isolate for 10 days and the family should receive a call from NHS Test and Trace. NHS Test and Trace will then identify and contact all close contacts. Close contacts can continue attending school but should take a PCR straight away.

All other children in the class can continue to attend school. Parents will be informed that there is a positive case in the class and should remain vigilant to any developing symptoms for their child. Parents may consider giving their child an LFD or PCR test as a precaution.

## Does my child need to take regular lateral flow tests?

No. This is not a requirement for Primary schools, however, if your families would like to do this then that is fine. We would encourage all adults to take regular (twice a week) lateral flow device tests to help identify early onset of COVID.

## What happens if lots of children at school test positive?

If this happens, we will involve our local health protection team and they will advise us if any additional action is required, such as implementing elements of our outbreak management plan. This may include wider testing or targeted closures of certain groups or classes.

## What happens if the staff member tests positive?

The staff member will self-isolate for 10 days. The children should continue to come to school and will either be taught by a cover member of staff or supply teacher; if the teacher is well enough, they may be able to check in with the class virtually.

## If my child is self-isolating, will they get work?

Yes. We will implement our remote education plan for any child self-isolating at home and if they are well enough, we will expect them to



complete all work set. Staff will liaise with parents as appropriate.

### Will children be in bubbles?

No. Although we are limiting large gatherings such as assemblies. Children remain in smaller groups for playtimes and lunch times and we are still limiting the amount of mixing for the time being.

### Will school let us know if there is a positive case?

We will inform parents/carers if there has been a positive case of COVID in their child's year group. We will continue to update parents on the general situation in Friday's newsletter.

### If a parent has been a close contact and is not required to self-isolate (double vaccinated) can they still bring children to school?

Yes, but we would ask that you take some additional precautions.

As well as getting a PCR test, we ask that you:

- Wear a mask on the school site
- Keep physical distance from other families and staff

NHS suggest:

- limiting close contact with other people outside your household, especially in enclosed spaces
- wearing a face covering in enclosed spaces and where you are unable to maintain social distancing
- limiting contact with anyone who is clinically extremely vulnerable
- taking part in twice weekly LFD testing

This advice applies while the person who tested positive with COVID-19 is self-isolating.

**In all circumstances – please keep school updated about any symptoms, close contacts, or positive cases.**

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If you have any other questions, please get in touch.