

Date: 16th November 2020

Ref: SWa/LGr

Dear Parents and Carers,

Re: For parents of close contacts of Covid-19 - Advice for Child to Self-Isolate for 14 Days

We have been advised by Public Health England that there has been a confirmed case of COVID-19 within the school.

We have followed the national guidance and have identified that your child has been in close contact with the affected individual. In line with the national guidance we recommend that your child now stays at home and self-isolates until Friday 27th November 2020, they can return to school on this date.

We are asking you to do this to reduce the further spread of COVID-19 to others in the community.

If your child is well at the end of the 14 days period of self-isolation, then they can return to usual activities.

Other members of your household can continue normal activities provided your child does not develop symptoms within the 14 day self-isolation period.

Please see the link to the PHE Staying at Home Guidance

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

What to do if your child develops symptoms of COVID 19

If your child develops symptoms of COVID-19, they should remain at home for at least 10 days from the date when their symptoms appeared. Anyone with symptoms will be eligible for testing 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 14 days.

The 14-day period starts from the day when the first person in the house became ill.

Household members staying at home for 14 days will greatly reduce the overall amount of infection the household could pass on to others in the community.

If you are able to, 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 of COVID 19

The most common symptoms of coronavirus (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, coronavirus (COVID-19) will be a mild illness.

If your child 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/>

Siblings in School

We have received further guidance from Public Health in regards to parents who have children in other year groups in addition to the child isolating and options for parents to consider when transporting to and from school. Guidance is as follows:

Scenario - Child A has been required to self-isolate as part of a school bubble that has been deemed to have been in close contact with a positive COVID-19 case at school. Child A does not have any symptoms of COVID-19. Child A is the only person within their household who is required to self-isolate. Child A has a sibling, Child B, from the same household who is still able to attend the same/different school. Can Child A accompany their parent/carer when taking Child B to school?

Advice -

- Is there another responsible adult at home who can look after Child A whilst Child B is taken to school?
- Is there someone from the family's childcare support bubble that can take Child B to school?
- Can school transport be arranged to collect Child B from home and bring them to school?

If the above options have been explored and the answer to all of them is 'no' then Child A can accompany their parent/carer and sibling to school. On arrival Child A should either remain in the family car or remain 2 metres plus away from any other parents or children if on foot.

This advice does not apply if Child A or any of their household is displaying any of the symptoms of COVID-19, however mild. Neither does it apply if Child A or any of their household has tested positive. In these circumstances the whole household should be self-isolating and none of the siblings should be attending school. The family should be following previously issued guidance for people who are symptomatic or who have tested positive.

Additional information

Remote learning will be available on the school website under the 'Children' tab, staff will also keep in contact with parents via MME. Please do not hesitate to use the Year Group email: Y3teacher@wodensfield.org if you require any further information.

And finally, if your child is entitled to benefit related free school meals and you would like to collect a food hamper for the isolation period, please let the school office know by 10.00am on Tuesday 17th November 2020.

Yours sincerely

S. Walker (Mrs)

Headteacher

