

7th June 2021

Dear Parents/Carers

I attach a letter from Oldham Council regarding changes to their advice for close contacts of someone who has a confirmed case of Covid-19, and face coverings.

PCR Tests for close contacts

As you will read, in response to a rise in the number of confirmed cases of the 'Indian variant' of Covid-19 in our region, the Council are advising that everyone who is asked to self-isolate due to being a close contact of a confirmed case of Covid, should receive a PCR test as early as possible in their subsequent 10-day isolation period.

Therefore, if your child is asked to self-isolate due to being a close contact, please go online at www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test to book a free test by clicking the box that says your local council has asked you to do this. Alternatively, you can book a test over the phone by call 119.

Please note that even if your child receives a negative test from the PCR test, they will still be required to isolate for the full 10 days. The additional PCR test is to help Public Health England to track the virus and help to stop the spread of the virus.

PCR Tests for pupils who feel unwell

The Council are also advising that pupils who feel unwell should receive a PCR test. This is in addition to those pupils who has one of the Covid symptoms (continuous cough, high temperature, change in taste or smell).

If your child who feels unwell but does not have one of the symptoms receives a negative PCR test, they are not required to self-isolate.

Reintroduction of face coverings

The Council are also advising that secondary students should wear a face covering in communal areas in school, and that they can choose to wear a face covering in a classroom should they wish, in response to the increasing numbers of cases in our region.

We are following this guidance. All students will be required to wear a face covering in communal areas of school.

A reminder - What to do if you or your child gets COVID-19?

COVID-19 exists in our wider community outside of school, and therefore it is important to remain aware of how you and your child are, and whether they are symptoms of COVID-19.

The most common symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19) are a recent:

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

If your child or any member of your household develops symptoms of COVID-19 they must get a test and remain at home for at least 10 days from when their symptoms first appeared until they receive a negative test result.

Public Health England 'Stay at Home' Guidance is available here:

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

Everyone's safety and wellbeing are our priority. Our Covid-19 precautions remain in place, and these additional measures will help us to reduce the spread in our community.

Thank you for your understanding and for all your support.

Yours sincerely



Miss D Gobbi
Principal

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