

Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> September

# **COVID** and General Guidance

Dear Parents/Carers,

We hope you've all enjoyed the Summer break and we look forward to welcoming the children back to school.

The last academic year was unexpected for us all. The changes we had in place were necessary to control the spread of COVID, although we understand they caused some disruption for the children. Government guidance has changed since 16<sup>th</sup> August, and we have made some updates to the way we handle COVID cases in school from this term.

# 1. Symptomatic children

• If your child experiences any of the 3 main COVID symptoms, they must not come in to school, they must <u>ISOLATE IMMEDIATELY</u>.

These include:

- A high temperature
- A new, continuous cough
- A loss or change to your sense of smell or taste
- Please <u>take your child for a PCR test</u> as soon as possible (<u>https://www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test</u>).
- <u>Inform the school</u> attendance team and provide the date when symptoms started:

Telephone: 0161 882 2680 Email: <u>attendance@oswaldroad.manchester.sch.uk</u>

## 2. Positive COVID cases

• If your child tests positive for COVID, please inform the school attendance team:

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Telephone: 0161 882 2680 Email: <u>attendance@oswaldroad.manchester.sch.uk</u> Out of hours: email <u>deborah.howard@oswaldroad.manchester.sch.uk</u>

Contact tracing will be carried out by NHS Test and Trace so the correct advice can be issued to contacts.

• Please <u>confirm isolation dates</u> issued by Test and Trace so school can continue to ensure positive cases do not return to school until the end of their isolation period.

#### Isolation dates:

The isolation period remains as 10 days. How this is worked out:

- If you test positive for COVID with symptoms, the symptom onset day is classed as day '0' and you must isolate for a further 10 days.
- If you are asymptomatic, day '0' is the day you took a PCR test, and you must isolate for a further 10 days.
- If you are isolating as a contact because you are not double vaccinated, day '0' is the last day of contact with the positive case and you must isolate for a further 10 days.

## 3. Contacts of a positive case

- Any contacts of a positive COVID case aged 18 years and 6 months or under will be exempt from isolation and <u>should still attend school</u>.
- This also applies to double vaccinated adults over 18 years and 6 months.

However, in order to help prevent further spread of the virus, we will need your support with the following please (particularly for contacts of positive cases within the household):

- Please inform school that your child is a contact.
- Follow Government advice and <u>take your child for a PCR test</u> as soon as possible (<u>https://www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test</u>).
- Consider limiting contacts outside of school where possible.
- If your child travels to school on public transport, please ensure a face mask is worn during the journey.

If there is a positive case within your child's household and as a consequence you are unable to drop your child off at school, please inform school immediately:

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# PE Kits:

We ask parents/carers to continue to send their children in to school in their PE kits on their designated PE day. We will be in touch with you about specific PE days for your child.

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## **Bikes:**

If younger children need assistance with their bikes during drop off and pick up times, parents/carers are able to come on site to help.

Many thanks for your cooperation.

Kind regards,

Deborah Howard Headteacher



