

Dear Parent or Carer,

Sunday 20th September 2020

Suspected case of COVID-19 in our School

We have a suspected case in the Year 3 bubble. Unfortunately testing capacity nationally means that tests aren't available for a number of days. We have carried out a full risk assessment with Salford's Public Health Team and have recommended that the identified bubble stays at home until test results are returned. If the test is negative, the bubble will be able to re-open, provided there are no further cases. However, if the test is positive, the bubble will remain closed until Monday, 5th October (14 days after contact).

Your child is not in the identified bubble and has not been identified as a close contact and therefore does not need to make any change to their usual routine, including school attendance.

For those children who are contacts of the case, the school has already been in touch to let those parents know and to explain the next steps. Any close contact **must** self-isolate for 14 days (this includes household members of the positive case). Only the close contact needs to self-isolate; other members of their household do not need to self-isolate.

Isolation means the person cannot go outside of the house (unless in your garden) other family members (outside your household) cannot visit and the child cannot see friends. Contacts who are isolating do NOT need to be tested because they will still need to continue to isolate for 14 days even if the test is negative.

If you think that someone else in your household has come in contact with a confirmed case or you need help or advice about self-isolation, please call the Spirit of Salford helpline on **0800 952 1000**. Also, if you need public health advice on testing, that is the number to call.

Public Health Advice on symptoms

The most common symptoms are outlined below

Symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19) are recent onset of any of the following:

- **a high temperature** – this means you feel hot to touch on your chest or back (you do not need to measure your temperature)
- **a new, continuous cough** – this means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours (if you usually have a cough, it may be worse than usual)
- **a loss or change to your sense of smell or taste** – this means you've noticed you cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal

Any one of the above symptoms gives reason for high level of suspicion for COVID-19.



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We are asking everyone who is unwell with one of the symptoms of Coronavirus (COVID-19) to book a test by ringing **0800 952 1000 or 119** or go to <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/testing-and-tracing/get-a-test-to-check-if-you-have-coronavirus/>

Information about COVID-19 symptoms and management of the virus can be found here, www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/

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

- 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/>

Although COVID-19 is circulating in the community, usual childhood illnesses are too; and it is important that these are not missed. Please contact your GP or NHS111 if you are worried; or call 999 if seriously unwell.

If you have any questions or concerns please refer to the government website, or you can contact school by calling, 0161 789 4400, or emailing: lewisstreet.primaryschool@salford.gov.uk

Best wishes,

Mrs Wendy McCormack
Executive Headteacher

Miss Claire Kinch
Head of School



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