



LIONEL WALDEN PRIMARY SCHOOL



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Dear Parents/Carers

We have been informed by some parents that their children, or other family members, are displaying symptoms similar to that of Covid-19. The pupils concerned, or their family members, have remained at home and were asked to book a test. This is in line with national guidance issued by the Department for Education and the Local Authority. However, I would like to make it clear that it is also very normal for us to have children showing these types of symptoms throughout the school year but particularly now with the onset of colds, etc.

There have been no positive cases of Covid-19 to date. We shall only inform you if any test comes back positive. In the meantime, your child can continue attending school providing they, or no-one in your household, is displaying Covid-19 symptoms.

The main symptoms of Covid-19 are:

- high temperature
- 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)
- loss or change to your sense of smell or taste - this means the person cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal

If you, your child, a household member or a member of your support bubble develops any of these symptoms, you should **notify the school immediately**, and arrange a test by visiting <https://www.nhs.uk/ask-for-a-coronavirus-test> or by phoning 119. You must self-isolate if you have coronavirus symptoms or live in the same household as someone who does.

If your child has displayed symptoms and we have asked them not to attend school:

- You should isolate for 14 days, along with anyone who forms part of your support bubble. This can end for everyone, your child included, if the test result comes back **negative**.
- Where a child/member of staff tests **positive** they must self-isolate for 10 days.



- Where a child/member of staff has been identified as a close contact to a positive case, they will be sent home and advised to self-isolate for 14 days. The contact's household/support bubble will not need to self-isolate unless the child/member of staff subsequently develops symptoms.

Where there is a positive case in the school, we will notify all those identified as close contacts of the positive result and the process moving forward. Every positive case in a school is risk assessed and the appropriate action taken to safeguard pupils and staff.

All children and staff will have access to a test if they display symptoms of coronavirus and are instructed to get tested in this scenario. To book a test, visit <https://www.nhs.uk/ask-for-a-coronavirus-test> or phone 119. Please rest assured that if we do have a positive test result in school and your child is affected, you will be notified immediately.

With the rise, once more, in cases of Covid-19 being confirmed nationally, the following measures remain as important as ever:

- Frequent handwashing with soap and water - for at least 20 seconds
- Use of hand sanitiser gel, if soap and water are not available
- Washing of hands as soon as you get home
- Covering of mouth and nose with a tissue or your sleeve (not your hands) when you cough or sneeze
- Immediately disposing of used tissues in the bin and washing of hands

The government has also made clear three simple actions we should all be following:

- **Wash hands** - keep washing your hands regularly
- **Cover face** - wear a face covering in enclosed spaces
- **Make space** - stay at least 2 metres apart - or 1 metre with a face covering or other precautions

In school, our children remain in their class bubbles throughout the day and do not mix with children from other class bubbles at any time. Keeping our school safe relies on everyone following the recommended measures outside of school too. By adhering to the government guidance above, **and not gathering anywhere in a group of more than six people including in gardens and parks**, you are helping us reduce the spread of infection so we can continue to protect your children and our staff.

Thank you for your continued co-operation.

S A Barnard-Taylor

Mrs S A Barnard-Taylor
Headteacher

