



Merridale Primary School

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Headteacher: Mr Simon Lane

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Date: Sunday 27th June 2021

Ref: LT/MM/SL

Dear Parent/Carer,

We have been advised by Public Health England that there has now been **eight** confirmed cases of COVID-19 **within the Year 4 bubble at school.**

We are continuing to monitor the situation and are working closely with Public Health England. This letter is to inform you of the current situation and provide advice on how to support your child. Please be reassured that for most people, coronavirus (COVID-19) will be a mild illness.

The school remains open and providing your child remains well, they can continue to attend school as normal. We will keep this under review. The Year 4 bubble is currently isolating and Year 4 children must not attend school. Year 4 parents and carers have been strongly advised to arrange a PCR COVID test for their child before they return to school.

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.

In response to the circulation of new variants in Wolverhampton, it is currently recommended that a PCR test is undertaken by any pupils or members of staff who have any new illnesses due to which they are unable to attend school.

All other household members who remain well must stay at home and not leave the house for 10 days.

The 10-day isolation period includes the day symptoms started (or the day the test was taken if there were no symptoms), and the next 10 full days.

Household members should not go to work, school or public areas and exercise should be taken within the home.

Household members staying at home for 10 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

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

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

However as a precautionary response to the new variants in Wolverhampton it is recommended locally that anyone experiencing any symptoms or new ill health presentations however mild undertakes a PCR test to identify positive cases and prevent onward transmission.

For most people, coronavirus (COVID-19) will be a mild illness.

If your child or anyone in the household does develop symptoms, however mild 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
- undertake regular Lateral Flow Testing which can help identify people who may have no symptoms but are still infectious and can give the virus to others.
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Further Information

Further information is available at <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/>

If you have any further questions or queries, please do not hesitate to contact school via email: office@merridaleprimary.co.uk

Please be aware that, due to GDPR regulations, we are not able to discuss personal information.

Yours Sincerely,



Mr S Lane
Headteacher