



Bringing faith and education together

Coronavirus(COVID-19) Contingency Plan January 2022

IMPORTANT UPDATE:

Isolation dates for fully vaccinated people and children under school age requirements for vaccine now need to self-isolate for 5 days (day 1 being the first day after a positive LFT result) and once two NEGATIVE LFT results have been attained 24hrs apart you may return to your educational setting, or on day 11 after 10 days of self-isolation.

IMPORTANT UPDATE:

Confirmatory PCR tests following a positive lateral flow device (LFD) test result are to be temporarily suspended from Tuesday 11 January. This will mean that anyone who receives a positive LFD test result will be required to self-isolate immediately and will not be required to take a confirmatory PCR test.

- The most common symptoms of COVID-19 are
 - a new continuous cough **or**
 - a high temperature **or**
 - a loss of, or change in, normal sense of taste or smell (anosmia).

If symptoms develop in school:

- If a child or adult develops any symptoms while they are at school, they will immediately be isolated and their temperature will be checked. The isolation area will be ventilated as much as possible. Parents will be called to arrange for immediate collection. Any adult in contact should wear a face covering and if 2m distance cannot be maintained, gloves and an apron should also be worn. After they have dealt with the symptomatic case, they should wash their hands thoroughly for a minimum of 20 seconds. The adult will **not** need to self-isolate unless they develop symptoms themselves.
- The area will be thoroughly cleaned and disinfected before it is used again.
- If a child (or adult) is sent home from school with these symptoms, however mild, they should take a LFT (lateral flow test) If the test result is positive they should self-isolate for a minimum of 5 days – the first day being the one following the positive LFT result.
- Anyone who has tested positive with a LFT (Lateral flow test) should self-isolate and remain in isolation for 5 full days. On day 5 you can take a LFT, if negative and day 6 24hrs later also negative and you have no temperature, you can return to the educational setting. If still positive you should not leave isolation until you have received two negative lateral flow results or met the 10 day self-isolation period.
- **Schools will no longer be expected to undertake contact tracing. Close contacts will now be identified by NHS Track and Trace.**

- The NHS will communicate with anyone who has received positive test results (or their parents) and will work to identify close contacts.
- The NHS Track and Trace team will then contact anyone deemed to have been in close contact and advise that they take a PCR test.
- Children under 18 years and 6 months and adults who have been double vaccinated **do not need to self-isolate even if they have been in contact with a positive case unless they develop any of the symptoms.**
- **Schools are no longer expected to inform parents/carers of any positive COVID cases in school**

Exemptions from isolation

From 22 December, you will not be required to self-isolate if you are notified you have had close contact with someone with COVID-19 and any of the following apply:

- you are fully vaccinated
- between the ages of 5 and 18 years 6 months
- you have taken part in or are currently part of an approved COVID-19 vaccine trial
- you are not able to get vaccinated for medical reasons

Fully vaccinated means that you have been vaccinated with an [MHRA approved COVID-19 vaccine in the UK](#), and at least 14 days have passed since you received the recommended doses of that vaccine.

Anyone who has been notified by NHS Test and Trace that they are a close contact who meets the requirements not to self-isolate and is 5 years or over, do not need to isolate, they are strongly advised to take a LFD test every day for 7 days and continue to attend their setting as normal, unless they have a positive test result or develop symptoms.

They should not arrange to have a PCR test if they have previously received a positive PCR test result in the last 90 days, unless they develop any new symptoms of COVID-19. It is possible for PCR tests to remain positive for some time after COVID-19 infection. If they test positive they need to isolate as per the latest guidelines.

The Outbreak Management Contingency Plan

- If the number of positive cases substantially increases within school, contact will be made with the DfE and/or Directors for Public Health who will provide instructions and advice.

Possible actions may include:

- Bubbles may be re-introduced for short periods of time
- More activities may be scheduled outdoors
- Increased ventilation in classrooms, where this would not significantly impact on thermal comfort
- One-off deep cleaning of contaminated areas
- Daily LFT (Lateral flow testing) of staff
- Pupils encouraged to take regular LFTs
- Staff may be required to use face coverings in communal areas – **NO CHILDREN TO WEAR MASKS**
- Parents may temporarily be refused school access

- Residential educational visits may be cancelled
- Open days etc. may be cancelled
- **LAST RESORT** – a DPH may advise introducing short-term attendance restrictions in a setting, such as sending home a class or phase group
- If this is directed, Vulnerable and Keyworker children will remain in school
- Duration of the closure will be dictated by the DPH (Dept for Public Health)

To help prevent spread of infection:

- Wash your hands more often than usual, for 20 seconds using soap and water or hand sanitiser, particularly after coughing, sneezing and blowing your nose, before you eat or handle food, or when you get to school or arrive home
- Cover your mouth and nose with disposable tissues when you cough or sneeze. If you do not have a tissue, sneeze into the crook of your elbow, not into your hand. Dispose of tissues into the rubbish bin and immediately wash your hands with soap and water for 20 seconds or use hand sanitiser.
- Regularly touched objects and surfaces will be cleaned and disinfected using your regular cleaning products to reduce the risk of passing the infection on to other people.

Definitions

A New Continuous Cough

- The coronavirus cough is a dry cough – it is not a chesty cough and doesn't produce phlegm or mucus
- Persistent coughing for more than an hour
- **OR**
- 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours
- If you normally have a cough, it may be worse than usual

A high temperature of fever

- A fever is 37.8 degrees centigrade or higher
- Symptoms of a fever may include:
 - your head, chest, neck or back feeling hot to the touch
 - feeling sweaty or achy

Close contact

- direct close contacts - face to face contact with someone who has tested positive for any length of time, within 1 metre, including:
 - being coughed on
 - a face to face conversation within 1 metre
 - skin to skin physical contact or unprotected physical contact (skin-to-skin)
- proximity contacts - extended close contact (within 1 to 2 metres for more than 15 minutes) with an infected individual
- travelling in a small vehicle, like a car, with an infected person

Covid-19

IMPORTANT UPDATE:

Confirmatory PCR tests following a positive lateral flow device (LFD) test result are to be temporarily suspended from Tuesday 11 January. This will mean that anyone who receives a positive LFD test result will be required to self-isolate immediately and will not be required to take a confirmatory PCR test.

Suspected case in child /staff member

Confirmed case of child/staff member

5 or more confirmed cases in same class within a 10 day period

If you have symptoms* isolate immediately. Take a LFT test as soon as possible.

www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test

Isolate for 5 days in most cases. On day 5 of self-isolation you can take LFT - if negative and another LFT on day 6 (24 hrs later) is also negative and you have no temperature then you are no longer needed to self-isolate and can return to your educational setting. It is strongly recommended you wear a mask. If positive you require TWO negative LFT results, 24hrs apart or reach 10 days self-isolation.

If unable to take LFT tests, or not fully vaccinated the self-isolation period is 10 days. Identify close contacts. Close contacts who are fully vaccinated or between 5 and 18yrs and 6mths to LFT every day for 7 days, continue to attend educational setting unless they develop a positive result and/or symptoms at any time. Report results through a live reporting system:

www.gov.uk/report-covid19-result

Call DFE helpline:
0800 046 8687 - Option 1
Mon – Fri 8.00am to 6.00pm
Sat – Sun 10.00am to 6.00pm
Follow guidance

IN ADDITION review and reinforce testing, hygiene and ventilation measures, enhanced cleaning

Check to see if people you live with need to self-isolate. www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/self-isolation-and-treatment/when-to-self-isolate-and-what-to-do

If any child is admitted to hospital with Covid-19, call DFE helpline 0800 046 8687 - Option 1

POSITIVE
Follow Confirmed Case Guidelines.

NEGATIVE
No longer need to self-isolate but continue to daily test LFT. Isolate if positive or develop symptoms. Contacts can stop isolating.

*Symptoms

High temperature
New, continuous cough
Loss or change to smell or taste

Omicron
Any individual identified as close contact OR a confirmed case of **OMICRON** variant of Covid-19 will be contacted directly by Local Health Protection Team or NHS Test and Trace. They will be required to self-isolate

SCHOOL ACTION

CALL SCHOOL TO CONFIRM POSITIVE LFT/PCR.

01732 882401 Mon – Fri 8.00am to 3.30pm.

admin@st-georges-wrotham.kent.sch.uk Sat – Sun 10.00am to 3.00pm.

Identify close contacts. Encourage LFT every day for 7 days. Discuss remote learning offer.

Inform class of confirmed case. Monitor numbers in class. If threshold of 5 reached call PHE 03442 253861, 03442 250562. Attend setting if NO symptoms and/or LFT negative.

Appendix B

Checklist of information to gather before calling the DfE Helpline about a case/cases

Information required when phoning DfE Helpline about a case/s

Your name, position and contact details (phone and email)	
Name of education setting, address and postcode	
Details of which year groups attend the setting	
Local Authority	
Local Health Protection Team	
Date of onset of symptoms (or test date if asymptomatic)	
Dates in educational setting while infectious	
Year group/course of pupil who has tested positive OR role of staff member who has tested positive	

Appendix C

Template letter for parents following confirmed covid-19 case/s

Dear Parents/guardians,

We are writing to inform you that the **nursery/school/college** has COVID-19 **case/cases** in **XXX year/group/setting**.

We know that you may find this concerning, but 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 children, coronavirus (COVID-19) will be a mild illness.

The setting remains open and your child should continue to attend as normal if they remain well. All students and staff, regardless of year group, should remain vigilant regarding COVID-19. All parents are advised to continue with the routine twice weekly asymptomatic LFD COVID-19 testing of those in year 7 and above in the household.

If you think your child is a close contact but has not been contacted directly by NHS Test and Trace then they should take a PCR test via [Get a free PCR test to check if you have coronavirus \(COVID-19\) - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/get-a-free-pcr-test-to-check-if-you-have-coronavirus) or by calling 119.

Further guidance can be found at [Guidance for contacts of people with confirmed coronavirus \(COVID-19\) infection who do not live with the person - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/guidance-for-contacts-of-people-with-confirmed-coronavirus-covid-19-infection-who-do-not-live-with-the-person)

What to do if your child develops symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19) or tests positive for COVID-19

The main symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19) are a new, continuous cough, or a high temperature, or a loss of, or change in, their normal sense of taste or smell (anosmia). If your child develops symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19), they should get a PCR test via [Get a free PCR test to check if you have coronavirus \(COVID-19\) - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/get-a-free-pcr-test-to-check-if-you-have-coronavirus) or by calling 119 and remain at home at least until the result is known. If negative, the child can end self-isolation; if positive, the child should isolate until at least 10 days after their symptoms appeared. They can return to their normal routine and stop self-isolating after 10 full days if their symptoms have gone, or if the only symptoms you have are a cough or anosmia, which can last for several weeks. If they still have a high temperature after 10 days or are otherwise unwell, stay at home and seek medical advice.

If the child has a positive test result but do not have [symptoms](#), they should stay at home and self-isolate for 10 days from the date the positive test was taken. This isolation period will be extended if they go on to develop symptoms by counting 10 full days from the day following their symptom onset.

Instructions for people who live in the same household as someone with COVID-19 (tested positive or symptomatic awaiting a test result)

Please see the [stay at home guidance](#) with information of what the household should do and who is exempt from isolation as a close contact. Even if you are exempt it is recommended that contacts get a PCR test, and undertake other measures outlined in the guidance such as limiting contact with anyone who is extremely clinically vulnerable and wearing a face covering in enclosed spaces while the person in your household with COVID-19 is self-isolating.

If you / your child develop [symptoms](#) at any time, even if these are mild, self-isolate immediately, [arrange to have a COVID-19 PCR test](#) and follow the [guidance for people with COVID-19 symptoms](#).

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

If your child does develop symptoms, you can seek advice from the nhs.uk website at <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/check-if-you-have-coronavirus-symptoms/>. If you are concerned about your child's symptoms, or they are worsening you can seek advice from NHS 111 at <https://111.nhs.uk/> or by phoning 111.

Contacts who are not required to self-isolate from 22 December 2021

From 22 December, you will not be required to self-isolate if you are notified you have had close contact with someone with COVID-19 and any of the following apply:

- you are fully vaccinated
- you are below the age of 18 years 6 months
- you have taken part in or are currently part of an approved COVID-19 vaccine trial
- you are not able to get vaccinated for medical reasons

Fully vaccinated means that you have been vaccinated with an [MHRA approved COVID-19 vaccine in the UK](#), and at least 14 days have passed since you received the recommended doses of that vaccine.

If you are a health or social care worker or student working in health and social care settings who has been identified as a household contact and are exempt from self-isolation, there is [additional guidance available](#) that you should follow to reduce the risk of spread of COVID-19 in these settings.

Students who are under the age of 18 years and 6 months or older students who are fully vaccinated can still attend the educational setting if identified as a close contact. They are recommended to get a PCR test* if 5 years and older (for household contacts there is no lower age restriction), avoid anyone who is extremely clinically vulnerable for the time they would have isolated and follow additional measures outlined below.

*They should not arrange to have a PCR test if they have previously received a positive PCR test result in the last 90 days, unless they develop any new symptoms of COVID-19. It is possible for PCR tests to remain positive for some time after COVID-19 infection.

How to stop coronavirus (COVID-19) spreading

There are things you can do to help reduce the risk of you and anyone you live with getting ill with coronavirus (COVID-19): [guidance on how to stay safe and help prevent the spread](#)

- get vaccinated – everyone aged 18 and over can [book COVID-19 vaccination appointments](#) now. Those aged 16 and 17 will be invited to book an appointment: [Who can get the coronavirus \(COVID-19\) vaccine - NHS \(www.nhs.uk\)](#). [Those who are aged 12-15 who are themselves clinically extremely vulnerable or live with someone who is clinically extremely vulnerable or meet JCVI recommendations \(JCVI statement\) are also eligible.](#)
- wash your hands with soap and water or use hand sanitiser regularly throughout the day
- 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
- meet people outside and avoid crowded areas
- open doors and windows to let in fresh air if meeting people inside
- wear a face covering when it's hard to stay away from other people – particularly indoors or in crowded places
- participate in twice weekly LFD testing following national guidelines (recommended for 11 years and over). We encourage you to log your results here: <https://www.gov.uk/log-test-site-covid19-results>

Further Information

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

Yours sincerely
Headteacher