

Date: [DD/MM/YYYY]

Warn and Inform following a confirmed Case of Covid 19 in your child's class/form

Dear Parent/ Carer,

We have a confirmed case/cases of covid 19 in your child's class/year group.

The current government guidance advises parents to await a call from NHS Test & Trace to confirm your child is a close contact.

You may wish to book a PCR for your child ahead of the call and to do so please book via the website below, or ring 119

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/coronavirus-covid-19-getting-tested>

Children below 18 years and 6 months are exempt from isolation, however in the event they are a close contact of a confirmed case they are advised to arrange a PCR to establish any infection transmitted.

Your child does not need to isolate whilst awaiting the results of the PCR but should the test be positive, they must then isolate for 10 full days from the test date. If your child does have a positive test the rest of the household will need to isolate for the ten days, unless household members are exempt from isolation.

Below are the criteria for exemption from isolation

- children aged under 18 years and 6 months are no longer required to self-isolate if they are a close contact of someone who has tested positive for COVID-19.
- Persons doubly vaccinated, the second vaccine being administered over 14 days ago
- Those participating in a vaccine trial
- Those unable to be vaccinated for medical reasons

Children who are aged under 5 years old who are identified as close contacts will only be advised to take a PCR test if the positive case is in their own household.

Please note people should not need to be re-tested via an LFD test or PCR test within 90 days of a previous confirmed positive test, unless new symptoms develop, in which case they should book a PCR.

What to do if your child develops symptoms of COVID-19

If your child develops symptoms of COVID-19, they must isolate and you should arrange a test for your child via <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/coronavirus-covid-19-getting-tested> or by calling 119.

If the test result is positive, your child will be required to self-isolate for a period of 10 days from the day that their symptoms started. Please inform us if your child has a positive test result.

If your child's test result is negative, they can continue with their normal activities if they are well enough to do so.

Please visit the link to Public Health England's guidance for households with possible Covid-19 infections:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-stay-at-home-guidance/stay-at-home-guidance-for-households-with-possible-coronavirus-covid-19-infection>

Symptoms of COVID-19

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

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

However, people frequently present with a wider range of symptoms. If you or your child feel newly unwell with Covid-19 symptoms, then please access a PCR test. For many people, coronavirus (COVID-19) will be a mild illness.

How to stay safe and help prevent the spread

There are still cases of COVID-19 in Bolton, and there is a risk you could catch or pass on the virus, even once you are fully vaccinated. There are easy and effective actions we can take to protect ourselves and others around us. Stay cautious to help protect yourself and others.

- If you think you have symptoms stay at home and take a PCR test
- Meet outside, or open windows and doors for indoor visitors
- Wear face coverings in crowded places and on public transport
- Use the NHS COVID19 App and check in to venues when you go out
- Wash your hands with soap regularly, and for at least 20 seconds
- Get vaccinated

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/coronavirus-vaccination/coronavirus-vaccine/>

Test and Trace Support Payments

If a person is asked to self-isolate by NHS Test and Trace and is on a low income, unable to work from home and will lose income as a result, they may be entitled to a payment of £500 from their local authority under the Test and Trace Support Payment scheme. This now applies to parents/ carers who cannot work from home and will lose income by self-isolating or staying at home to care for the child. Further details are available via:

<https://www.bolton.gov.uk/coronavirus-support-1/test-trace-payments>

Further information

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

Yours sincerely

(Insert name and role)

