



ST JAMES
C.E. PRIMARY SCHOOL

DREAM • BELIEVE • LEARN • ACHIEVE

Principal: Mrs Lisa Belfield

CEO: Canon Jill Pilling

St James C.E. Primary School

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Warn and Inform

Dear Parents/ Carers,

We are informing you that there has been a confirmed case of COVID-19 in your child's class. You may wish to undertake twice weekly testing with your child at present.

In line with the national guidance, 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.

Your child and other members of your household can continue normal activities provided your child does not develop symptoms.

Children over 5 years who have been in contact with someone who has tested positive with COVID-19, are strongly advised to take a LFD test every day for 7 days, whilst continuing to attend school as long as they do not have symptoms. If an LFD test is positive, they must isolate as a new case. From January 11th a confirmatory PCR test is not required if asymptomatic unless a parent is applying for TTSP support. Please report all test results at <https://www.gov.uk/report-covid19-result>.

LFD test kits can be obtained from your local chemist, online at <https://www.gov.uk/order-coronavirus-rapid-lateral-flow-tests> or call 119. If you have problems accessing LFD tests, please contact your school.

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.

Tests can be booked via <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/coronavirus-covid-19-getting-tested> or by calling 119.

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 PCR 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.

Your child may be able to end their self-isolation period before the end of the 10 full days. They can take LFD test from 5 days after the day symptoms started (or the day their test was taken if they did not have symptoms) and another LFD test on the following day (day 6). The second LFD test should be taken at least 24 hours later. If both these test results are negative, and they do not have a high temperature, they may end self-isolation after the second negative test result. For an example and diagram explaining further please visit <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-stay-at-home-guidance/stay-at-home-guidance-for-households-with-possible-coronavirus-covid-19-infection>

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



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Household contacts who are aged over 18 years and 6 months and not fully vaccinated, are legally required to self-isolate and should take a PCR test.

Household contacts who are,

- fully vaccinated
- or aged under 18 years and 6 months
- or have taken part in or are currently part of an approved COVID-19 vaccine trial
- or not able to get vaccinated for medical reasons.

Are NOT legally required to self isolate, but are strongly advised to take daily LFD tests for 7 days.

Household contact must isolate if they develop symptoms and take a PCR test.

Household contacts who are aged under 5 years old not legally required to isolate but should take a PCR test.

Symptoms of COVID-19

If you or someone in your household develops symptoms of Covid-19, isolate and access a PCR test. 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 stop COVID-19 spreading

There are things you can do to help reduce the risk of you and anyone you live with getting COVID-19:

- wear face coverings in crowd places, especially when you are indoors;
- if someone in your household test positive, it is encouraged that household contacts obtain a PCR test and test daily using LFD tests, unless exempt;
- 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;
- allow ventilation in the house through opening windows;
- put used tissues in the bin immediately and wash your hands afterwards.



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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.gov.uk/test-and-trace-support-payment>

Further Information

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

Yours sincerely,

Mrs L Belfield
Principal