

Dear Parents and Carers,

We are so pleased we have been able to provide a positive return for your child back to school. We are doing all we can to keep your child safe and happy as well as helping them to catch-up with their learning.

We really need your help and support to keep our school environment safe for children, families and staff in order to keep our school fully open at all times. Covid is still a risk and you may have read that rates of infection are still high in Salford.

Everyone has a part to play in the fight against Covid. I know most of you are really trying hard and are sticking to these simple to follow rules to keep your child and family protected:

- If you or your child are unwell and think you may have the virus you must all stay at home to protect others. The person who is unwell should go for a test and let us know the results. To book a test go to <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/testing-and-tracing/get-a-test-to-check-if-you-have-coronavirus/> or call 119 or 0800 952 1000

You will now be able to get a test if you display any of these symptoms:

A new continuous cough

A high temperature (fever)

A loss of, or change in, your normal sense of taste or smell (anosmia)

Please note it is now only possible, due to the high demand for tests nationally, to get a test for these symptoms.

- If you need any advice or assistance, you can call the Spirit of Salford helpline on **0800 952 1000**
- *Wash your hands frequently and thoroughly for at least 20 seconds with soap or use hand gel if you cannot use soap and water.*
- *Keep your distance from other people when you are out an about.*
- *Wear a face covering when you are in shops, supermarkets or other public places.*
- *Do not invite people outside of your household into your home or garden (household support bubbles are exempt) and keep with your own household if going inside a pub or restaurant.*
- *When meeting others, please do outside in groups of no more than 6.*
- *Avoid car sharing with people outside of your household.*

As ever, I want to say a huge thanks for continuing to support us in school. If we all work together, we will protect each other by stopping the spread of Covid in our area.

Some key messages;

If your child becomes unwell at home or if anyone in your household is unwell as outlined above, they should not attend school. Please let school know the reason for your child's absence and we will discuss with you if your child needs a test using the criteria above.

If your child becomes unwell whilst in school, we will contact you and your child will need to be sent home. Your child will be supervised separately from other children and other members of the school community while he or she is waiting to go home.

We will contact the Local Authority Infection Control Team to inform them of the need to arrange a test. You will be contacted with information on what you must do to arrange a test for your child and details of how and where this will be carried out. Please wait for this call. Your child must remain at home while awaiting the test and the result and your child, and all members of your household,

should not come into contact with other people outside of your household. You must not go to a doctors, hospital or NHS facility during this time unless symptoms become serious.

What to do when you get the results of the coronavirus test

Once you have got your child's test results, or the test results of anyone else in your household, you must phone the school and inform them of the results. Even if the results are negative, you must still tell your child's school. This is to protect the rest of the school community.

What to do if your child's coronavirus test is negative

You must inform school of this straight away.

Your child can return to school provided they feel well enough and they have not had a fever, diarrhoea or vomiting for 48 hours. As there are other viruses circulating such as a cold or flu, it is advisable to avoid contact with other people until they are better. Household members can also end their isolation, unless someone else is awaiting results of a coronavirus test.

What to do if your child's coronavirus test is positive

You must inform school of this straight away. This is so we can inform the Local Authority so that next steps can be taken to protect others.

If your child attended school in the 48 hours prior to the onset of symptoms and up to the point of testing, Salford public health team will work with school and your family to establish any contacts that may have been made with others in the community, both in and out of school.

Your child will need to self-isolate for at least 10 days until they feel better and symptoms have gone. A cough or lack of taste and smell might last longer than 10 days, but your child can still return to school. Advice on self-isolation will be available from Infection Control.

Your household and any other contacts must isolate for 14 days and watch for symptoms. If these appear then they will need to be tested.

What do if your child is sent home because another child in their bubble (eg class or year group) has tested positive

If the other child with a positive test outcome attended school in the 48 hours prior to symptoms appearing, a decision may be made that your child's class or 'contacts' in a year group has to go home for isolation. This is to protect members of the school community and others.

If your child needs to be sent home, school will inform you of this and your child will need to self-isolate for 14 days and watch for symptoms. Your child will be offered a test if symptoms do appear. Members of your household will not need to isolate, unless your own child develops symptoms. All pupils who are sent home will need to isolate for 14 days even if your child has a negative test result during this time.

If children are sent home they will be provided with learning to complete at home during the period of isolation and we will keep in touch with you.

Further Information

For further information please follow the links below.

Guidance for parents about early Years providers and schools

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/what-parents-and-carers-need-to-know-about-early-years-providers-schools-and-colleges-during-the-coronavirus-covid-19-outbreak/what-parents-and-carers-need-to-know-about-early-years-providers-schools-and-colleges-in-the-autumn-term#process-in-the-event-of-outbreaks>

Yours sincerely

N R Hargreaves Headteacher