

West Street Community Primary School
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16-09-21

Dear Parents/Guardian

We now have 3 positive covid cases (more than 10% of children and staff) in Nursery and 1 positive case in Reception.

In order to limit Covid-19 spreading, I have introduced the following actions in line with our contingency plan:

- **Only children and staff in Nursery and Reception will use the EYFS Area**
- **The Nursery and Reception children & staff will only use the EYFS Area – they will not use any other part of the school buildings. This means children will eat lunch in their classrooms not in the hall**
- **All staff are now wearing face masks inside the school buildings in shared and communal areas**
- **We will continue to keep all classrooms well ventilated as well as maintaining good hand sanitising and handwashing routines**

It is likely that these will be short-term actions. I will review this plan at the end of next week when I will tell EYFS parents whether the actions above will continue or not.

What should I do if my child develops COVID-19 symptoms?

The main symptoms of COVID-19 are:

- new continuous cough and/or
- fever (temperature of 37.8°C or higher)
- loss of or change in, normal sense of taste or smell (anosmia)

If your child develops any of these symptoms, you must arrange for them to have a PCR test as soon as possible. A PCR test can be arranged via the NHS UK (www.nhs.uk) website or by contacting NHS 119 via telephone if you do not have internet access.

Your child should self-isolate immediately and they should not attend school.

Please contact the school by phone to inform us your child has COVID-19 symptoms and you are awaiting a COVID-19 test.

What should I do if my child has COVID-19 confirmed by PCR test?

Anyone with COVID-19 confirmed by PCR test should self-isolate until the latest of:

- 10 days after the onset of their symptoms, or
- 10 days after their test day if they are asymptomatic

Self-isolation means your child should not go to school, attend any out of school activities or visit a friend's house. They should not visit any public places, use public transport or go out to exercise. You should not have visitors into the home except for those providing essential care.

Please contact the school by phone and inform us your child has COVID-19 confirmed by PCR test.

It is really important you let us know if your child has confirmed COVID-19 so we can monitor the number of children with COVID-19 across the school.

What should I do if my child is a contact of someone with COVID-19 confirmed by PCR test?

If your child is aged under 18 years and 6 months and does not have any symptoms of COVID-19 (high temperature, new continuous cough, loss of or change in, normal sense of taste or smell) they do not have to self-isolate as a contact of COVID-19.

They are advised to have a PCR test unless they have had a positive PCR test in the last 90 days.

Children aged 5 and under are not advised to take a PCR test unless the confirmed case is someone in their own household.

What should I do if my child has a positive result on a lateral flow device test?

If your child has a positive result on a lateral flow device test, they should self-isolate immediately and you should arrange a PCR test as soon as possible.

Other members of the household do not need to self-isolate whilst you await the PCR test result if they do not have symptoms and are aged under 18 years and 6 months or are fully vaccinated.

What should I do if my child is unwell with signs of an infection but does not have symptoms of COVID-19

Your child should be excluded from school if they are unwell. If concerned you should seek advice from your GP or Pharmacist, they will be able to advise you how long your child should stay off school. Otherwise we would recommend exclusion for 48 hours or until the child is symptom free, whichever is longer. We are not currently advising that preschool children get a PCR test if they do not have the three main symptoms of COVID-19.

ACCESSING COVID-19 TESTING IN LANCASHIRE

Symptomatic testing and testing for close contacts

PCR tests can be booked at any of the DHSC run sites that operate Monday – Sunday 8am – 8pm on the gov.uk website <https://www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test>

Local Testing Station

There is a Local Testing Station which is open every day from 8am to 12 noon at:

the **ACE Centre, Cross Street, Nelson, BB9 7NN**

There are three mobile testing stations in Pendle. Please check the website for the locations and dates/times when these are open.

Cross Skelton St Car Park (next to the Union Exchange pub), Colne BB8 9JB is the nearest.

Time 10am - 3pm

You must book a PCR test online to make an appointment at both the local centre and mobile test centres.

PCR tests for home delivery can also be ordered by calling 119.

Website link

https://www.pendle.gov.uk/info/20030/community_advice_and_guidance/529/covid-19_support_for_individuals/2

Yours sincerely,

S.K. Watson (Headteacher)