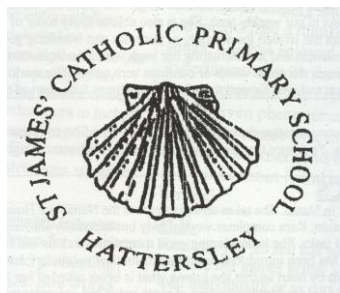


MRS J. WALKER
HEADTEACHER

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CHERITON CLOSE
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HYDE
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SK14 3DQ

Date: 13th January 2022

Warn and Inform

Dear Parent/ Carer,

We have been advised by Tameside Council's Public Health Team that there have been confirmed cases of COVID-19 within Class 2 and Reception.

In line with the national guidance, children aged under 18 years 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 or test positive.

Action Needed

As your child is likely a close contact, Public Health are asking **your child to take daily Lateral Flow Device (LFD tests) for 7 days**. This will help us to identify and isolate cases, prevent onward transmission and minimise our case rates in the borough.

LFD test kits can be obtained from your local pharmacy, online at <https://www.gov.uk/order-coronavirus-rapid-lateral-flow-tests> or call 119. Your child should do daily LFD tests even if they have tested positive within the last 90 days themselves.

Please remember:

- if your child tests negative and well enough to do so, they can continue attending school.
- if your child has a positive LFD result, they must start isolating for 10 days as a new case, and inform school. They do not require a confirmation PCR test.
- if they develop COVID symptoms, they must stay off school, start isolating and book a PCR test.

Exemptions to close contact testing:

The groups exempt from this advice are:

- Children aged 4 and under;
- Any child who cannot tolerate daily testing, for example, or children with special educational additional needs.

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.

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 a LFD test from 5 days after the day symptoms starting (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>

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;
- 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.
- before mixing with people in crowded indoor place or visiting vulnerable people at a higher risk of being ill from COVID-19 it is advised to take a LFD test. Public Health are still encouraging at least LFD testing twice a week.

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,

J.A.Walker

Headteacher