

Letter to students identified as close contact to a positive case

Notification: Close contact to a positive case of coronavirus COVID-19

Date: 02 December 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

Case of COVID-19

We have been informed that a person within our school has tested positive for coronavirus (COVID-19) and your child has been identified by the school as a close contact to the person testing positive.

What should you do now?

- Your child can continue to attend school if they are feeling well and showing no symptoms of COVID-19.
- Your child should book in for a PCR test which can be arranged by following this link: <https://www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test>. Within Haringey, tests are available from Stamford Hill Primary School, N15, and the Irish Centre, N17 (appointment only). PCR tests can also be arranged to get posted to you and these should arrive the following day.
- In addition to arranging a PCR test, we kindly ask that your child takes a lateral flow test (rapid test) as soon as possible and before returning to school. If your child is younger than 12 years old, or has disabilities, you will need to do the test for them. If the test is negative, please repeat the test again 3 days later. If the test is positive, your child should arrange for a PCR test (even if they have already had one in the previous days) to confirm the result.

Families can collect a lateral flow testing kit from any local pharmacy (or library). A full list of where to collect testing kits is available here: <https://maps.test-and-trace.nhs.uk/>. If you are unable to collect one, lateral flow testing kit can be posted to your address using the Government website: <https://www.gov.uk/order-coronavirus-rapid-lateral-flow-tests>.

New evidence has emerged suggesting that lateral flow tests are more than 80% effective at detecting any level of COVID-19 infection which is much higher than previously thought. They are therefore being advised to use more routinely within schools as a useful public health tool for limiting the spread of the virus but must only be used by those showing no symptoms of COVID-19.

Because it can take up to 10 days before symptoms appear after having had contact with a positive case, we kindly ask you do not send your child to school if they start to feel unwell during this time. If your child starts to feel unwell within the next 10 days, they should arrange for a PCR test immediately – regardless of having previously tested negative a few days before on a PCR test or a lateral flow test.

We thank you for your support as we continue to stride towards keeping our school and wider community safe.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'John D.', written in a cursive style.

Headteacher

For more information:

www.gov.uk/coronavirus/education-and-childcare

www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/symptoms/ or by phone 111