

26th November 2021

COVID Cases in Class 2, 3 and 4

Dear Parents/ Carers

In the last 4 days, we have 17 cases of COVID confirmed at school. We have 14 other children taking and waiting for PCR test results. Close contacts have already been notified. As a school I have been asked to send out this message again. Please note the 3 key symptoms, but the highlighted symptoms have been seen more predominantly in our children.

With this increase in positive cases, which we believe may be linked to school, I have spoken to our Education Effectiveness Partner at the LA, PHE East Midlands and the Governors and we are now following our COVID 19 Outbreak Management Plan. I will send full detail on the changes to protocols in the weekly Newsletter tonight.

Please see the following letter from the Local Authority, Health Protection Team:

If your child develops COVID-19 symptoms, they must self-isolate immediately and get a PCR test, even if their symptoms are mild. This is because many people experience mild symptoms from COVID-19, but may still pass on the virus to others. The most important symptoms of COVID-19 are recent onset of any of the following:

- a new continuous cough
- a high temperature
- a loss of, or change in, your normal sense of taste or smell (anosmia)

If your child is symptomatic, they should self-isolate at home while they get a PCR test and wait for the results. They must self-isolate if they test positive, from the day their symptoms started and the next 10 full days, or from the day the test was taken if they do not have symptoms and the next 10 full days. This is the law, regardless of whether they have been vaccinated. Self-isolating is important because the infection could be passed on to others, even if asymptomatic. You must stay at home for the full amount of time you are told to, because this is the when the virus is most likely to be passed on to others.

There are several other symptoms linked with COVID-19 such as a runny nose, headache, sore throat, shivers and fatigue. These other symptoms may have another cause and are not on their own a reason to have a COVID-19 PCR test. If you are concerned about your symptoms, seek medical advice.

People in England who do not have the more common symptoms of COVID-19 can take part in regular testing using LFD tests. Many people already do this as part of school or workplace LFD testing programmes. All of these programmes are known as 'asymptomatic testing programmes' and can help reduce the spread of infection to others.

If you feel unwell but do not have COVID-19 symptoms, or your COVID-19 test is negative, you may still have an illness which could be passed on to other people. Many common illnesses, like the flu or the common cold, are spread from one person to another. This can happen:

- when someone infected with an illness breathes, speaks, coughs or sneezes, releasing respiratory particles which can cause infection in another person
- through surfaces and belongings which can also be contaminated when people who are infected with an illness cough or sneeze near them or if they touch them, the next person to touch that surface may then become infected

Staying at home until you feel better reduces the risk that you will pass on an illness to your friends, colleagues, and others in your community. This will help reduce the burden on our health services.

Yours faithfully
Health Protection

Leicestershire County Council

Please do contact me if you have any worries or questions.

Thank you, as ever, for your support and understanding.

Take care and stay safe,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Karen Lambert', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Mrs Karen Lambert

Head Teacher



@stathernprimary

