



# Raysfield Primary

**Know myself. Respond to my world.**  
**Connect with my community.**

Finch Road, Chipping Sodbury, South Gloucestershire BS37 6JE  
Raysfield Primary School: [office@raysfield.org.uk](mailto:office@raysfield.org.uk) 01454 866795

Monday 14<sup>th</sup> September

## COVID-19 UPDATE

Dear Parents and Carers,

Today I have been sent this information regarding COVID-19, and after listening to the news over the weekend, I believe it is important to share this with you. Our priority this year, whilst we live through these unprecedented times together, is to keep us all safe. We are confident that everything is in place in school, and we are keen to work together to ensure we keep the infection out of school so we can maintain our service for you.

Thank you for the feedback on the entry to school this morning; that seemed to work much better.

Please read the important information below which will help you decide what action to take if your child becomes unwell.

### **Message from NHS Test and Trace**

*We have seen unprecedented demand for testing recently. NHS Test and Trace figures show that between mid-June and the end of August the number of people getting tested for the first time rose by 63% and we have seen demand for testing increase significantly again this week.*

*People with symptoms absolutely must come forward to get a test as this will help us stop the spread of the virus. As we manage this period of high demand, it is especially important that if individuals don't have symptoms, and have not specifically been advised to take a test, they should not be coming forward for a test **because they could be taking a test away from someone who really needs it.** A recent survey at testing sites suggests around a quarter of people who have accessed tests did not have symptoms.*

*Since the start of the pandemic, we have vastly expanded the nation's testing capacity, more than doubling the capacity of the NHS and PHE laboratories as well as setting up an entirely new nationwide network of testing sites and new Lighthouse laboratories to process samples.*

*We continue to expand capacity even further and to help ensure that testing is being used by those who need it most.*

- *The main symptoms of coronavirus are: **a high temperature, a new, continuous cough and a loss or change to your sense of smell or taste.** Most people with coronavirus have at least 1 of these symptoms.*
- *If you have Covid-19 symptoms, get a test. It's really important that anyone with Covid-19 symptoms can get a test. This will help us stop the spread of the virus. If you don't have Covid-19 symptoms and you are trying to book a test, do not come forwards for a*

[www.raysfield.org.uk](http://www.raysfield.org.uk)

**test – you could be taking a test away from someone who really needs it. This is increasingly important as we head into Autumn and Winter and more people will get colds and the flu. Only if you have one of the 3 symptoms should you book a test.**

- *Do not stockpile tests – if you develop symptoms in the future you will be able to book a test. There is no need to order a test in case of future use.*
- *If someone in your household starts to have symptoms, then that person must get tested and the rest of the household should self-isolate with them whilst they wait for the results. If you or other members of the household don't have symptoms, then you should not get a test – only people with symptoms should get tested. The vast majority of people who are tested in person get their results the very next day. [Full guidance on self-isolation is available on gov.uk.](#)*
- *If you are self-isolating or in quarantine, then a negative test result does not mean you can end isolation early. The virus can take time to develop and so a test early on does not prove that you won't go on to develop the virus. That means you could still be at risk of spreading the disease to other people.*
- *If you have symptoms and need to book a test, you can do this online [here](#) or by ringing 119. Please keep trying as appointments are released throughout the day.*
- *The local NHS 111 service is currently experiencing high numbers of calls. The 111 service is not able to arrange tests and callers have to be redirected to the **correct 119** number, or online service, which is frustrating for individuals and affects 111 capacity. **We need to make sure that 111 is protected for people who are ringing about other medical and health issues.***

Many thanks for your continued support.

Mrs Claire Hill