

Multiple confirmed COVID cases

Advice to All Parents

Dear Parent and carers

You will be aware that we have experienced a small number of cases of COVID-19 within our school community. This has meant that we have advised some pupils in years R, 3 and 4 to self-isolate, and we also have a small number of staff who are self-isolating, who have tested positive.

The roots of transmission link to the original case, which suggest that the transmission is within our local community so, on the advice of Public Health England, we must ensure we are extra vigilant and self-isolation regulations are adhered to for those where this is applicable.

We know that you may find this concerning but we are continuing to monitor the situation and are working closely with Public Health and Education colleagues in South Gloucestershire. Track and trace procedures have identified any members of the school community who need to self-isolate and all those affected have already been contacted. This letter is to inform you of the current situation and the steps we are taking over the next few days to ensure students on site can be supervised safely and to stop further spread of the virus within our community. Please be reassured that for most people, coronavirus (COVID-19) will be a mild illness.

Changes in place from Thursday 24th June to Friday 2nd July inclusive (self-isolation period):

The school remains open for the following year groups:

- Year 1
- Year 2
- Year 5
- Year 6

Our Risk Assessment is robust and clearly identifies the measures taken in school
<https://www.raysfield.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/06/Raysfield-Primary-Risk-Assessment-Term-6-2021.pdf>

For parents, we will be insisting you:

- Wear a mask (unless exempt) to drop off and pick up your child.
- Remain socially distant where possible
- Keep any face to face communication to a minimum, and use dojo for messages to teaching staff. We will endeavour to do our best to respond swiftly.
- Ensure your child's hands are washed before leaving the house and their temperature is checked.

South Gloucestershire Council has produced a range of resources for parents and carers to help with any additional Covid-19 queries. Please visit: www.southglos.gov.uk/schoolreturn

Just a reminder that twice weekly testing is available for all family members over 16 of school aged children. Rapid test kits can be picked up from a number of local places, to find the nearest one to you, click on this link and add your postcode:

<https://maps.test-and-trace.nhs.uk/#/>

What to do if your child develops symptoms of COVID 19

If your child develops symptoms of COVID-19, they must not come to school/setting and should remain at home for at least **10 days** from the date when their symptoms appeared. Anyone with symptoms will be eligible for a PCR test (the normally available test type) and this can be arranged via <https://www.nhs.uk/ask-for-a-coronavirus-test> or by calling 119.

All other household members who remain well, must stay at home and not leave the house for 10 days. This includes anyone in your 'Support Bubble'.

Further information is available at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-stay-at-home-guidance/stay-at-home-guidance-for-households-with-possible-coronavirus-covid-19-infection>

Household members should not go to work, preschool/school or public areas and exercise should be taken within the home.

If you require help with buying groceries, other shopping or picking up medication, or walking a dog, you should ask friends or family. Alternatively, you can order your shopping online and medication by phone or online.

Household members staying at home for 10 days will greatly reduce the overall amount of infection the household could pass on to others in the community

If you are able, move any vulnerable individuals (such as the elderly and those with underlying health conditions) out of your home, to stay with friends or family for the duration of the home isolation period.

Symptoms

The most common symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19) are recent onset of:

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

For most people, coronavirus (COVID-19) will be a mild illness.

If your child does develop symptoms, you can seek advice from the nhs.uk website at <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/check-if-you-have-coronavirus-symptoms/>. If you are concerned about your child's symptoms, or they are worsening you can seek advice from NHS 111 at <https://111.nhs.uk/> or by phoning 111.

We understand that we are living through challenging times, and empathise with the difficulties and frustrations of remote learning, working from home and further disruption to our children's education. However, by working together, and following the regulations, we will be able to minimise the impact of this pandemic on our children, who have already shown great resilience and flexibility. Their positivity and 'can do' attitude' will come from us showing them that all will return to normal very soon and this is a small bump in the road.

Wishing you our very best

Mrs Claire Hill