

King Edwin Primary School

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Advice to All Parents – COVID-19 outbreak situation

Dear Parents,

I'm writing to let you know that a number of people within our school community have recently tested positive for coronavirus. So, in line with government guidance, we will take action as a school to address this outbreak.

We know that you may find this concerning but the actions we will take are intended to help bring the situation under control, by reducing the opportunities for the infection to spread in school. Also, please be reassured that for most people, coronavirus (COVID-19) will be a relatively mild illness, particularly in children and young people and those who are fully vaccinated.

The actions we will take in school are designed to protect face-to-face education, minimise disruption and be proportionate to the risk. Your child should continue to attend school if they remain well, unless you are contacted individually to advise otherwise. This applies to all children, including those with special educational needs.

Actions in response to the outbreak

The school will bring in the following additional controls:

- **Continue** providing extra opportunities for children to wash their hands during the day
- **Continue** to ensure good ventilation by moving some activities outdoors, where possible and if weather allows
- **Continue** with suspension of large mixed group activities such as assemblies, performances etc.
- **Encourage daily LFD testing** for specific groups associated with the outbreak. If this affects your child, you will be contacted separately. This will initially be for two weeks, whilst we monitor the situation.
- **Limiting parental presence** and other visitors to the school.
- Limiting movements in and out of school.

Actions for parents and carers

Parents and carers can support the school's efforts to control the outbreak by:

1. Being aware of and following key national guidance on [preventing the spread of infection](#)
2. Participating in regular LFD testing yourselves. You can pick up free LFD tests from pharmacies, some community facilities or local test sites – visit the Council's webpage on [Asymptomatic Community Testing for people without Covid-19 symptoms | Nottinghamshire County Council](#) or [find test providers near you](#). Or you can get tests sent to your home either by [ordering online](#) or by ringing 119.
3. If you are notified by NHS Test and Trace that your child is a close contact of a confirmed case, and your child is aged 5 or older, **supporting your child to test by LFD daily for 7 days** (or until 10 days after your last contact with the person who tested positive for COVID-19 if this is earlier). Children should continue to attend school whilst in the testing period as long as their test results are negative.
4. Do not send your child to school if they have a positive LFD test result. Keep your child at home self-isolating for 10 full days following the positive test result. **Your child may be able to return to school earlier if they have 2 negative LFD tests taken on two consecutive days, with the first test not taken before the fifth day after symptoms started (or the day the initial test was taken if no symptoms).**



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5. Do not send your child to school and seek a PCR test promptly if they have symptoms of coronavirus. Follow the national guidance on self-isolation for people with confirmed coronavirus.
6. If you haven't already taken up the opportunity, get vaccinated. Children aged 12-15 years old are offered vaccination through the Schools Immunisation Service in secondary schools – secondary schools will send out further information about this. You can also book a COVID-19 vaccination for yourself and for children ages 12-15 here: Book or manage a coronavirus (COVID-19) vaccination - NHS (www.nhs.uk).

Additional information

We are very aware of the different views people hold regarding management of the virus. We feel equally as frustrated as many our parents as we all try to follow what can often seem to be conflicting guidance. Ultimately, we understand that society is gradually moving closer towards a world without any restrictions or isolation **BUT** we are not at that point yet. We need to carry on following guidance given to us by the government, DFE and UK HSA.

One possible method of preventing the virus spreading in our setting is for children to test with a lateral flow device more regularly but this is not something we can insist all parents carry out. For some children this simply wouldn't be possible or helpful but for those families that can... we would greatly appreciate that this is done for the next couple of weeks. Obviously this is a voluntary request but we feel it could have a positive impact on reducing the numbers of asymptomatic cases in school.

Once again, thanks for your ongoing support as usual.

Kind regards,

Andy Callaghan – Wetton
Executive Headteacher

* Don't forget – we are always here to help, no matter how trivial people feel that the need is, it's good to talk and share a concern... we may be able to sign post you towards the correct support – contact us via helpandsupport@kingEdwin.notts.sch.uk



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