



**ST JOSEPH'S  
CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL**  
*"Jesus light our way on our faith journey. Be our guide,  
our joy and hope, as we learn, live, love and pray together"*  
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 Head Teacher: Mrs M Ashley



Date: .....

**RE: Further confirmed cases of coronavirus (COVID-19) in school**

Dear Parents/Carers,

I am writing to inform you that some children in your child's class ..... have tested positive for coronavirus (COVID-19) over the last two days.

*What do I need to do?*

Current guidance is that **all pupils and staff in this class should Lateral Flow Test (LFT) for the next 7 days**, unless they have symptoms, in this case they must have a PCR test. Please can you send any test results to [covid@stjosb7.bham.sch.uk](mailto:covid@stjosb7.bham.sch.uk)

*Does my child need to isolate?*

**If your child has no symptoms** – if their lateral flow test is negative your child does not need to isolate and can come to school as normal

**If your child has ANY symptoms** (cough, headache, temperature, loss of smell/taste) – your child must have a PCR test instead of a lateral flow test and isolate until they receive their test result

*What if my child tests positive?*

If your child tests positive they will need to isolate for 10 days following the information below

| Day        | My child has symptoms and tested positive on the PCR test   | My child has no symptoms but tested positive on the Lateral Flow test   |
|------------|---|---|
| Day 1 - 5  | Your child must isolate   | Your child must isolate   |
| Day 5      | Your child must isolate but can take a lateral flow test following this advice <br>If positive continue to isolate | Take another lateral flow test(LFT) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• If this is <b>positive</b> – continue to <b>isolate</b></li> <li>• If this is <b>negative</b> – take another <b>test on day 6 and continue to isolate</b></li> </ul> Report this result to school and the .gov website   |
| Day 6      | Follow this advice <br>If positive continue to isolate   | Take a lateral flow test(LFT) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• If this is <b>positive</b> – continue to <b>isolate</b></li> <li>• If this is <b>negative</b> – they can <b>return to school, if they had a negative test on day 5</b>, but must still <b>test on day 7, 8,9 and 10</b></li> <li>• If this is <b>negative for the first time</b> – continue to isolate and take another test tomorrow. <b>Your child must have 2 negative Lateral Flow Tests, 24 hours apart, before being allowed back to school</b></li> </ul> Report this result to school and the .gov website |
| Days 7 -10 | Follow this advice <br>If positive continue to isolate until day 10  | Continue to use LFT tests. If any of these show a positive result, isolate for another 24 hours and take another LFT the next day<br>Report this result to school and the .gov website  |

### *What if my child tests negative on the Lateral Flow Test?*

They can come to school but should continue to take lateral flow tests for a total of 7 days. As long as these are all negative, they do not need to isolate and can come to school as normal.

### *What about others in my household?*

If your child tests positive, the rest of the household should also take lateral flow tests. If your child tests positive and if there is any adult in the household who has not been double vaccinated, they will need to isolate for 10 days, even if their lateral flow test results comes back negative. If anyone in your house has symptoms, they MUST have a PCR test, not a lateral flow test. These are not suitable for those with symptoms.

### *Can I use a Lateral Flow Test if my child has symptoms?*

No! Lateral Flow Tests are designed to pick up Covid-19 in people who do not have any symptoms. If your child has symptoms, their infection may not show up on a LFT and they MUST have a PCR test.

### *My child is not ill, why do I need to use Lateral Flow Tests?*

Some children in school have tested positive with no symptoms at all, so it is important that you continue to use lateral flow tests for the next 7 days. Lateral Flow tests are designed to pick up cases of COVID-19 with no symptoms

Please keep a very close watch on your child during the next week to ensure that they do not develop **any** symptoms of Covid. Some children who have tested positive in school have not displayed classic symptoms of the virus and have had other symptoms such as has headache or stomach upsets.

The school has contacted Public Health England's local health protection team, and as a result school has received further advice on any further actions to take. This may include more pupils and staff being asked to take PCR tests. You will be kept fully informed of any developments.

I would like to reassure you that we take any suspected and confirmed cases of coronavirus very seriously. I understand that you may find this news worrying, so please get in touch with myself or Mr Caffrey if you wish to discuss any concerns. I am sure you will all join me in wishing the individual a safe recovery.

Yours sincerely

Mrs M. Ashley  
Headteacher