

Thursday 23rd December

Warn and Inform

Dear Parent/ Carer,

We have been advised by Bolton Council's Public Health Team that there has been a confirmed case of COVID-19 within Early Years.

In line with the national guidance, children aged under 18 years are no longer required to self-isolate if they are a close contact of someone who has tested positive for COVID-19.

Your child and other members of your household can continue normal activities provided your child does not develop symptoms.

People who have been in contact with someone who has tested positive with COVID-19 will be contacted by NHS Test and Trace and advised to take a PCR test, whether or not they have symptoms. If this test is positive, they must isolate for 10 days.

Children who are aged under 5 years old who are identified as close contacts will only be advised to take a PCR test if the positive case is in their own household.

What to do if your child develops symptoms of COVID-19

If your child develops symptoms of COVID-19, they must isolate and you should arrange a test for your child via <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/coronavirus-covid-19-getting-tested> or by calling 119.

If the test result is positive, your child will be required to self-isolate for a period of 10 days from the day that their symptoms started. Please inform us if your child has a positive test result.

If your child's test result is negative, they can continue with their normal activities if they are well enough to do so.

Please see the governments guidance for households with possible Covid-19 infections: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-stay-at-home-guidance/stay-at-home-guidance-for-households-with-possible-coronavirus-covid-19-infection>

Symptoms of COVID-19

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

- new continuous cough and/or;

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- high temperature and/or;
- a loss of, or change in, normal sense of taste or smell (anosmia).

If you or your child feel newly unwell with Covid-19 symptoms, or feel unwell and are unsure, then please book a PCR test.

Please note people should not need to be re-tested via an LFD test or PCR test within 90 days of a previous confirmed positive test, unless new symptoms develop, in which case they should book a PCR.

How to stay safe and help prevent the spread

There are still cases of COVID-19 in Bolton and there is a risk you could catch or pass on the virus, even once you are fully vaccinated. There are easy and effective actions we can take to protect ourselves and others around us. Stay cautious to help protect yourself and others.

- If you think you have symptoms stay at home and take a PCR test
- Meet outside, or open windows and doors for indoor visitors
- Wear face coverings in crowded places and on public transport
- Use the NHS COVID19 App and check in to venues when you go out
- Wash your hands with soap regularly, and for at least 20 seconds
- Get vaccinated <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/coronavirus-vaccination/coronavirus-vaccine/>

Test and Trace Support Payments

If a person is asked to self-isolate by NHS Test and Trace and is on a low income, unable to work from home and will lose income as a result, they may be entitled to a payment of £500 from their local authority under the Test and Trace Support Payment scheme. This now applies to parents/ carers who cannot work from home and will lose income by self-isolating or staying at home to care for the child.

Further details are available via: <https://www.bolton.gov.uk/coronavirus-support-1/test-trace-payments>

Further Information

Further information is available at <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/>.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs N. Whittaker

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