

To all parents/carers of children currently in school

19<sup>th</sup> March 2021

Dear Parent or Carer

### A confirmed case of COVID-19 in our School

A member of our school community has tested positive for Covid-19. We have carried out a full risk assessment and identified all those who have been in close contact with the affected case and have recommended that they stay at home and self-isolate until 10 days after their last contact. We are working closely with Salford's Public Health Team to reduce the risk of infection for all children and staff.

**Your child has not been identified as a close contact** and therefore does **not** need to make any change to their usual routine, including school attendance.

For those children who are contacts of the case, the school has already been in touch to let those parents know and to explain the next steps. Any close contact **must** self-isolate for 10 days (this includes household members of the positive case). Only the close contact needs to self-isolate; other members of their household do not need to self-isolate.

Further information is included in the attached leaflet

Although COVID-19 is circulating in the community, usual childhood illnesses are too; and it is important that these are not missed. Please contact your GP or NHS111 if you are worried; or call 999 if seriously unwell.

You are now able to book a COVID-19 test for your child/ren who attend our school if they feel unwell with 'non-classical' COVID-19 symptoms. While we know a lot of people are more likely to catch winter viruses at this time of year, in Salford we still want to rule out the possibility of COVID-19 and encourage primary and secondary age pupils to get tested.

Please note:

1. We are **still advising immediate isolation** to anyone who is suffering three **classical symptoms**, namely: new continuous cough; a high temperature (fever); or a loss of or change in normal sense of taste or smell, or have a positive test result
2. Pupils who are unwell with any of the symptoms below are **not expected to isolate immediately** but we would advise that they go for a test to rule out COVID-19.

Non-classical symptoms include:



- Vomiting/nausea/off your food
- Diarrhoea
- Sleeping more than usual/extreme tiredness
- Listless/restless/agitated
- Shortness of breath
- Feeling cold
- Headache
- Severe body aches
- Sore throat
- Congested or runny nose
- Skin rash
- Complaining of anything that is not feeling themselves

3. To book a test please visit [www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test](http://www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test) and, when prompted, click the box "My local council has asked me to get a test, even though I do not have symptoms" (see below).

If you have any questions or concerns please refer to the government website, or call The Spirit of Salford Helpline on 0800 952 1000

Best wishes

*R. L. Munro.*



## **Information sheet**

If you think that someone in your household has come in contact with a confirmed case or you need help or advice about self-isolation, please call the Spirit of Salford helpline on **0800 952 1000**.

### **Public Health Advice on symptoms**

If anyone in your household becomes unwell with one of the symptoms of Coronavirus (COVID-19) to book a test by ringing **119** or go to <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/testing-and-tracing/get-a-test-to-check-if-you-have-coronavirus/>

### **Symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19) are recent onset of any of the following:**

A new continuous cough

A high temperature (fever)

A loss of, or change in, your normal sense of taste or smell (anosmia)

**Any one of the above symptoms gives reason for high level of suspicion for COVID-19.**

Information about COVID-19 symptoms and management of the virus can be found here, [www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/](http://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/)

## **How to stop COVID-19 spreading**

There are things you can do to help reduce the risk of you and anyone you live with getting ill with COVID-19

- wash your hands with soap and water often – do this for at least 20 seconds
- use hand sanitiser gel if soap and water are not available
- wash your hands as soon as you get home
- cover your mouth and nose with a tissue or your sleeve (not your hands) when you cough or sneeze
- put used tissues in the bin immediately and wash your hands afterwards

## **Further Information**

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

