

HOLYWELL SCHOOL

Red Lion Close, Cranfield, Bedfordshire MK43 0JA

Tel: 01234 750381

Email: school@holywellschool.co.uk

Website: www.holywellschool.co.uk



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*A Church of England School
providing a Values Based Education*

12th January 2022

Dear Parent/Carer

This letter is to inform you of the current situation with Covid-19 at school and to provide advice on how to support your child. In general, we have relatively low numbers across both students and staff, however, we remain vigilant and cautious. We have been made aware of a number of students and staff who have tested positive for COVID 19 and, in a few classes, we have reached a 10% threshold – we have contacted parents of students in these classes directly, but one of the additional measures advised from Public Health, is to contact all parents/carers to provide an update – hence this letter. We are continuing to monitor the situation and are working closely with our local Public Health team.

Our school remains open and your child should continue to attend if they remain well. All parents/carers are advised to continue with the routine, twice-weekly Lateral Flow Device (LFD) testing of those aged 11 and above in the household. We also recommend this for students in Years 5 and 6 if possible (NB. This is *our* additional guidance due to the fact that these are year groups in which there have been cases).

What to do if your child develops symptoms or tests positive for COVID-19

If your child develops symptoms of COVID-19, they should self-isolate and book a PCR test as soon as possible. This can be arranged via <https://www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test> or by calling 119. Typical symptoms of COVID-19 are a new, continuous cough, or a high temperature, or a loss of, or change in, their normal sense of taste or smell (anosmia).

Please note that we have seen that the additional symptoms of an upset stomach, runny nose, headache, sore throat, unusual fatigue (tiredness) or cold-like symptoms could be early warning signs of a potential COVID-19 infection.

If your child develops symptoms of COVID-19, they should get a PCR test and remain at home at least until the result is known.

- If the PCR test is negative, the child can end self-isolation and return to the setting
- If the PCR test is positive, the child should follow Government guidance on self-isolation

If your child does develop COVID-19 symptoms, you can seek advice from the NHS 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 should contact NHS 111 at <https://111.nhs.uk/> or by phoning 111.

How to help to stop COVID-19 spreading

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

- get vaccinated – everyone aged 12 and over can book COVID-19 vaccination appointments now or attend a drop-in site. See <https://www.blmkccg.nhs.uk/drop-in> for clinic locations and times.
- wash your hands with soap and water or use hand sanitiser regularly throughout the day
- cover your mouth and nose with a tissue or your sleeve (not your hands) when you cough or sneeze



Headteacher: Mr MG Simpson MA, NPQH

Deputy Headteacher: Mr S Van Der Merwe – Deputy Headteacher / Designated Safeguarding Lead: Miss A Stewart
Assistant Headteacher / Designated Safeguarding Lead / SENDCo: Mrs J Davies – Senior Leader: Mr James Ulph

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- put used tissues in the bin immediately and wash your hands afterwards
- meet people outside and avoid crowded areas
- open doors and windows to let in fresh air if meeting people inside
- wear a face covering when it's hard to stay away from other people – particularly indoors or in crowded places – and on school/public transport
- participate in twice weekly LFD testing following national guidelines (recommended for 11 years and over); we encourage you to log your results here: <https://www.gov.uk/log-test-site-covid19-results>

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

Yours sincerely



Mr MG Simpson
Headteacher