



Ely St Mary's C of E Junior School

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Dear Parent/Carer,

I am writing to update you on the current situation regarding COVID-19 within the school. I am sure you will have seen in the news that cases in this area are currently significantly higher than they have previously been.

As with positive cases in other settings, and in line with national guidance, NHS Test and Trace will work with the individual(s) who has tested positive to identify close contacts. This is no longer the responsibility of the school, but we will work with Track and Trace if asked to.

If your child is identified as a close contact by NHS Test and Trace, they will contact you. Your child will be advised to take a PCR test at the earliest opportunity and will only be asked to isolate for 10 days if they test positive. If the test is negative, they may continue to attend school as normal.

If your child is advised to take a test, we would strongly encourage that they do so as this will help prevent further transmission.

Should your child develop symptoms (high temperature, a new continuous cough or a loss or change to their sense of smell or taste), please follow the stay-at-home guidance and let us know as soon as possible.

If your child is showing any symptoms or you are concerned, please arrange for a PCR test rather than just carrying out a LFT test. These tests are designed to show results for those showing symptoms and may provide a false negative if you have symptoms. A PCR test can be booked by calling 119 or online: [Get a free PCR test to check if you have coronavirus \(COVID-19\) - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk). Please ensure you keep the school informed on a daily basis whilst your child is isolating awaiting PCR test results.

To help control increases in potential cases, we ask that if you have any doubts regarding symptoms, that you arrange for a PCR if you are still unsure – a number of children who have tested positive this term presented initially with tummy upsets and cold symptoms (runny nose).

We may also have to reintroduce some of the control measures from last term and have notified the affected cohort accordingly. Where this is the case, please be assured this will be for a short period of time and only after discussions with DEMAT and other relevant bodies.

Thank you once again for all you are doing to keep keep our school safe.

Yours sincerely,

Miss R Clarke
Interim Headteacher and Deputy Headteacher

