



27th September 2021

Dear parents/guardians,

Further to our earlier letter today (27th September) regarding cases of COVID-19 in the school, we wanted to get in touch with you again with an update. We thank you all for your cooperation.

We are continuing to work closely with public health and have implemented measures across the school in the short term so that we can manage the cases of COVID-19 whilst maintaining education as a priority. The school remains open for years R - 4, and your child should continue to attend as normal if they remain well and are not in year 5 or 6.


As you may know, nationally, close contacts of a COVID-19 case are recommended to get a PCR test. Therefore, in families that have a COVID-19 case, the other members of the family, including siblings, are advised by public health to get a PCR test even if they are well. Please be aware that this is not mandatory but is advised in order to detect COVID-19 cases earlier and therefore reduce spread. The person getting a test does not need to isolate, unless they have symptoms, or the test comes back positive. If you have had COVID-19 in the past 90 days, then you should not get a PCR test, even if you are a contact, unless you develop new symptoms.

In addition to this, given that a number of our cases are in Ottery Class, public health has recommended that children in Ottery Class get a PCR test, even if they are well (but not if they have had confirmed COVID-19 in the last 90 days). Again, this is not mandatory, and parents and children can make their own choice on whether they want to get one based on the information available to them. If the child does not have symptoms they do not need to isolate when getting this test and can come to school as normal. If the test is positive then, we would ask the child to isolate in line with national guidelines.

We would also like to encourage families with children in school to continue to LFD test (rapid testing) twice weekly. This applies to adults and secondary school aged children and above and LFD testing is not recommended for primary school aged children themselves.

Ensuring that those who are eligible consider getting the COVID-19 vaccine is also a really important measure to reduce the spread and harm of COVID.

We know you may find this situation concerning, but it is felt that this is the best way to reduce the spread of COVID-19 whilst maintaining education. We would like to reassure you that for most children and adults, COVID-19 is a mild illness. Limiting the spread is still important in order to maintain face-to-face education and to protect the vulnerable.


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