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## **Government Guidance for school attendance during Covid-19**

It is lovely to welcome everyone back to school under the new, more relaxed guidelines from the Government.

At Orchard Vale we will continue with good hygiene measures for everyone, maintaining appropriate cleaning regimes, keeping occupied spaces well ventilated and making use of appropriate PPE.

### **Symptoms of Covid-19**

New continuous cough and/or high temperature and/or a loss of, or change in, normal sense of taste or smell (anosmia).

### **Isolation**

Unless children exhibit symptoms they will not be required to isolate at home.

Children may still come into school even if a member of the household has a positive PCR result/Covid-19 symptoms, as long as the child does not have symptoms themselves. If you choose to keep your child off school we are currently required to register their absence as unauthorised.

If your child is showing any of the symptoms of Covid-19 you should contact 119 and ask for guidance, you will be asked to keep your child at home. You may be required to book a PCR test for them and keep them at home until the results are received.

If a child exhibits symptoms whilst in class we will isolate them, call parents and request you to collect them as soon as possible, book a PCR test and advise us when you receive the results.

In the event of a positive result you will be instructed by Public Health England to isolate your child for 10 days from the onset of symptoms.

### **PCR test**

You will need to take advice from the NHS on 119 if you think your child requires a PCR test.

If you do not have symptoms but have been in close contact with someone who has tested positive through a PCR test OR if you have been contacted through Track and Trace and advised to, you may book a PCR test. As long as you are not exhibiting any symptoms of Covid-19 you may still come into school until the results of the test have been received.

You should not arrange for a PCR test if you have received a positive PCR test result in the last 90 days, unless you develop any new symptoms of Covid-19, as it is possible for PCR tests to remain positive for some time after Covid-19 infection.

### **Staff Lateral Flow Testing**

All staff are required to take 2 Lateral Flow Tests per week and report the results to the Headteacher until the end of September, when this will be reviewed by the Government.

### **Bubbles**

Classes are now back to normal, with children being able to mix, attend assembly etc.

Should there be a positive case within a classroom we will be advised by Public Health England to bubble that class. All children and staff, with the exception of the child who has a positive PCR test, will be allowed to attend school but will remain within their bubble at all times and will not mix with any other groups for the advised period.

### **Clusters/Outbreaks**

We are required to seek advice from Public Health England should there be 5 children/staff who are likely to have mixed closely, test positive for Covid-19 within a 10-day period:

Or

10% of children, staff who are likely to have mixed closely test positive for Covid-19 within a 10-day period.

We will then act upon that advice appropriately.

**Please remember to call the School Office before 9am on 01271 375074 if your child is not going to be in school. Please provide their name, class and reason/symptoms for being absent.**