

‘Achieving Excellence through Leadership’

GILES JUNIOR SCHOOL

Telephone: 01438 353374 email: admin@gilesjm.herts.sch.uk Website: www.gilesjm.herts.sch.uk



Headteacher: Miss. L. Whitby

Monday, 28 June 2021

Dear Parent/Carer,

Reminder COVID-19 procedures

We have a number of pupils in school who have symptoms of COVID-19 and have been sent to school. We are very aware that there is a rise in cases and we are seeing a number of local schools requiring groups of pupils needing to isolate as they have been in contact with a positive case.

Please read this information carefully and help us all stay safe. We do not want to risk a class being required to isolate when there are some really important days in school, such as transition, which we desperately want the children to attend.

What to do if your child develops symptoms of COVID 19

If your child develops symptoms of COVID-19 they should remain at home. Arrange for a COVID test via <https://www.nhs.uk/ask-for-a-coronavirus-test> or by calling NHS 119 and inform the head teacher. This needs to be a PCR test (not a lateral flow test).

If their test is negative they can return to school when they are well. Please email the notification from NHS to COVID@gilesjm.herts.sch.uk. This is monitored at all times, even weekends.

If their test is positive they will need to self-isolate for **10 days** from the date when the symptoms started. **All your household members must also self-isolate for 10 days.** Close contacts of those with a confirmed case of coronavirus are also advised to book a PCR test. Information is attached about how to book a test should you find yourself in this scenario. This will help to halt the spread of the virus. If the test is negative they will still have to self isolate for the 10 days. If the test is positive they must begin their own period of self isolation from the date of their positive test.

The date of symptom onset is day zero.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-stay-at-home-guidance/stay-at-home-guidance-for-households-with-possible-coronavirus-covid-19-infection>.



Symptoms

The symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19) are:

- recent onset of new continuous cough or
- high temperature or
- a loss of, or change in, normal sense of taste or smell (anosmia).

For most people, coronavirus (COVID-19) will be a mild illness. If you are concerned about your health or the health of anyone else in your house please seek advice from your GP or NHS 111 by phoning 111.

There are things you can do to reduce the risk of getting COVID-19:

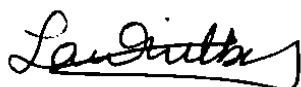
- wash your hands with soap and water often – do this for at least 20 seconds
- use hand sanitiser gel if soap and water are not available
- wash your hands as soon as you get home
- cover your mouth and nose with a tissue or your sleeve (not your hands) when you cough or sneeze
- put used tissues in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

How does the school identify close contacts?

If there is a positive case in school we will notify all close contacts and ask them to self-isolate. This will be via letter. We will also communicate to the whole school if there has been a positive case to raise awareness and allow vigilance when observing your child.

We appreciate that children often present with a cough or temperature but at this time hope we can count on your support to err on the side of caution and get a test to make sure. This will make sure we are not in the position where we have to isolate groups of pupils who may have been in contact with a pupil who should have stayed at home.

Yours sincerely,



Miss Louise Whitby
Headteacher