



Headteacher
Mrs C Lahive

Wirral Education Committee

Riverside Primary School
Brighton Street
Wallasey
Merseyside
CH44 6QW
schooloffice@riverside.wirral.sch.uk



Tel 0151 639 9787
Fax 0151 639 8517

06/06/21

Dear Parents/Carers,

I hope you have all enjoyed the lovely weather over the half term. We are all looking forward to welcoming back our children and we are planning a wonderful summer term ahead. Team Riverside have done such a great job keeping everyone safe so far and I would like to thank you for the massive part you have played in this.

Given that there are increasing cases across Cheshire and Merseyside, Public Health England (PHE) have asked schools to remind parents of the following information. You will also be very aware of the high rates in several areas across the North West.

PHE has confirmed that ALL COVID cases in the North West be considered as likely Delta/ Indian variant unless/until proven otherwise.

REMINDERS FOR PARENTS/CARERS FROM PHE:

- If a parent or carer is experiencing one of the 3 main COVID symptoms and is waiting for the results of a PCR test, they should NOT send their children into schools while they are awaiting the results. If a parent/carer is waiting for a PCR result, both they and their children could potentially be infectious and therefore the children should not be attending school while the parent is waiting for their test result. If the parent receives a negative PCR result, their children can return to school. If the parent/carer receives a positive result, they and their family members have to self-isolate for the full 10 days.

Parents/carers should be reminded NOT to use home LFDs to test whether symptomatic primary-age children have COVID or not. While convenient to use these at home, the difficulty in carrying out a nasal and throat swab with a young child means that the test results are often not valid. Also, everyone who has at least one of the 3 main COVID symptoms (high temperature, new continuous cough, loss of taste/and/or smell) should have a PCR test. If parents have a symptomatic child, they need to book a supervised PCR test (see www.wirral.gov.uk for local details)

Symptom-free testing

Ideally, everyone should test themselves 2-3 times a week even if they feel well. With 1 in 3 people showing no symptoms when they have COVID-19, the free tests you can do at home give us all the chance to stop the spread easily.

Symptom-free test kits can be collected from local testing centres, local pharmacies, some Council buildings including libraries and leisure centres as well as from our mobile testing vehicles when they are out and about in Wirral. To keep up-to-date with, the latest dates and locations visit www.wirral.gov.uk/mobiletesting

Testing when you have symptoms

If you are experiencing any of the symptoms of COVID-19 (a new continuous cough, a high temperature or a loss of sense of taste or smell) please self-isolate and get a test at one of our symptoms-only testing centres: www.wirral.gov.uk/test.

Self-isolation

Do not forget there are a few ways you may find out you need to self-isolate. You may get a positive COVID-19 test, you may know you have been in contact with someone with COVID-19 or you may have been contacted by local or national Test & Trace services. There's lots of support available if you need to isolate. Go to www.wirral.gov.uk/isolationguide. If you are on a low income or self-employed and will lose money by not being able to work, there is specific support in place to help you financially.

Don't confuse hay fever with COVID-19

With the warmer weather and increased pollen levels, it's important for people to understand the difference between the symptoms of hay fever and COVID-19. While the symptoms of coronavirus and hay fever can overlap, people with hay fever don't experience a high temperature and most won't feel unwell. But, hay fever can play tricks on your sense of smell and give you a sore throat. If you suffer with hay fever, make sure you are regularly tested for COVID-19 to be on the safe side.

Face Coverings

For the moment, while face coverings are still required in all public places, we would remind you to wear yours when dropping off and collecting your children on school premises.

Thank you very much for your continued support.
Here's to a happy and healthy half term

Very best wishes



C Lahive
Headteacher