



Headteacher
Mrs C Lahive

Wirral Education Committee

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06/09/20

Dear Parents / Carers,

We have had a wonderful start to the term, thank you for your patience with our new systems; it was truly wonderful to see all our beautiful Riverside family back together where we belong! Your children looked so smart and were an absolute joy to behold!

As you are aware, information is constantly changing at the moment so we just wanted to remind you about the current procedures should you have a suspected case of Covid-19 in your household. An example of this that has happened in our school just this week:

Miss Jones was not in school on Friday because her mum developed a cough. She felt that it was probably just a cold but it was persistent. She got in touch with NHS UK and they said that she needed to either to get a postal test or visit a testing centre. So she could find out quickly, she went and had a test done. Miss Jones (even though she had no symptoms herself) had to self-isolate until the test result came back as she was in that household. Thankfully, the test results came back negative so Miss Jones is able to return to work on Monday. During this time of year, with coughs and colds around, you can appreciate that this situation is going to happen again but it is very important that if your child or anybody in your household has any of the 3 main symptoms that you act quickly.

The main symptoms of coronavirus are:

- A high temperature – this means you feel hot to touch on your chest or back (you do not need to measure your temperature)
- A new, continuous cough – this means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24hours (if you usually have a cough, it may be worse than usual)
- A loss or change to your sense of smell or taste – this means you have noticed you cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal.

Most people with coronavirus have at least one of these symptoms.

If anyone in your family needs a test, a new walk-in test centre has opened in the car park of the Hamilton Building on Conway Street in Birkenhead. It will be there for several months 7 days a week from 8am-8pm. You do not need to make an appointment.

Please find attached information of the process with useful links and numbers.

Thank you once again for your support and here is to another great week at Riverside.

Very best wishes,

Mrs Lahive
Headteacher

Management of a suspected case

What to do if a child or staff member is unable to attend school because they have COVID-19 symptoms

Anyone who develops symptoms of COVID-19, or whose household member develops symptoms, should immediately self-isolate. They should not attend school and should follow the steps below.

1. Parent/Carer or staff member should notify the school of their absence by phone
2. School should record name of staff or pupil, contact details, reason for absence, date of onset of symptoms, date last in school, class group.
3. Direct them to [Stay at home](#) guidance for isolation advice for child/staff member and their households. **The person with symptoms should isolate for 10 days starting from the first day of their symptoms** and the rest of their household for 14 days.
4. Advise that the child/staff member should get tested via NHS UK or by contacting NHS 119 via telephone if they do not have internet access This would also apply to any parent or household member who develops symptoms. If any staff contact develops symptoms then they can apply for a test via <https://www.gov.uk/apply-coronavirus-test-essential-workers>.
5. **There is no further action required by the school at this time, and no need to notify the Local Authority or Health Protection Team.**