



West Cornforth Primary School
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DURHAM COUNTY COUNCIL INFORMATION REGARDING ADDITIONAL MEASURES IN SCHOOL

Dear Parent,

We have been advised that there have been a number of confirmed cases of COVID-19 within the school. NHS test and trace will be in contact with individuals who have been identified as a close contact to let them know if they are legally required to self-isolate, and to provide further advice. For full details of the guidance please see www.gov.uk/backtoschool

The school remains open and your child should continue to attend as normal if they remain well.

We have sought advice from our local Public Health team and in line with our contingency plan, which all schools are required by the DfE to have in place, we will be re-introducing the following measures:

- **Face coverings** have been reintroduced in communal areas for staff.
- **Cleaning** The school is cleaned on a daily basis and surfaces are sanitised. Staff sanitise classrooms and communal areas throughout the day.
- **Lunchtimes** In order to reduce contact, lunchtime will commence at 11:30am. Children will be served in key stage groups. Surfaces will be sanitised throughout lunchtime.
- **Whole key stage/school activities** will be cancelled until further notice.
- **Pupil progress meetings** Progress meetings/parent meetings will be held via telephone or virtually via Teams.

Classrooms are well ventilated and children are encouraged to wash hands and sanitise regularly.

What to do if your child develops symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19) or tests positive for COVID-19

Please be reassured that for most people, coronavirus (COVID-19) will be a mild illness.

The most common symptoms of COVID-19 are recent onset of:

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



If your child does develop symptoms, they should get a PCR test and remain at home at least until the result is known. [Get a free PCR test to check if you have coronavirus \(COVID-19\) - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk). If positive, the child should isolate until at least 10 days after their symptoms appeared.

If you are concerned about your child's symptoms, you can seek advice from NHS 111 at <https://111.nhs.uk/> or by phoning 111.

If your child has a positive test result but does not have symptoms they should stay at home and self-isolate for 10 days from the date the positive test was taken.

It is now possible to end self-isolation after 7 days, following 2 negative LFD tests taken 24 hours apart. The first LFD test should not be taken before the sixth day.

This isolation period will be extended if they go on to develop symptoms by counting 10 full days from the day following their symptom onset.

What to do if there is a case of coronavirus (COVID-19) in your household?

- PCR testing for all adults who are not exempt from self-isolation if they are a close contact of a positive case and are required to self-isolate*.
- Daily LFT testing for 7 days for any adult or secondary age pupil or primary pupil aged 5yrs and older who is a household contact of a positive case and is exempt from isolation and continues to attend school. The testing of primary age pupils is at parental discretion. Testing should start from the day the household member has symptoms or if they don't have symptoms from when they tested positive*.

*Note: People who have tested positive with a PCR test within the last 90 days should not be encouraged to test unless they develop new symptoms.

- Paper based and remote education will be provided for those children not attending school.
- Packed lunches will be available for those children in receipt of free school meals.

Help, support, and further information.

To help you comply with the requirement to self-isolate, the County Durham Together Community Hub can provide access to essential supplies, financial support and emotional support as well as other services. Please visit www.durham.gov.uk/covid19help or call the Community Hub on 03000 260260 for further details.

There is also support available the coronavirus section via durhamlocate.org.uk. Please contact the school, if you require any further information.

Kind regards

Jill Hodgson

