



Rye Community Primary School & Pugwash Nursery
The Grove, Rye, East Sussex TN31 7ND
www.ryeprimary.co.uk



01797 222825
office@ryeprimary.co.uk

Executive Headteacher: Mr Barry Blakelock
Head of School: Miss Kelly Martin

01797 228695
pugwash@ryeprimary.co.uk

1st December 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

We have been working very closely with the Health Security Agency as there have been rising numbers of confirmed cases of COVID-19 within the school community, affecting pupils, parents and staff.

We know that you may find this concerning, but we are continuing to monitor the situation and are providing the following advice. Please be reassured that for most people, coronavirus (COVID-19) will be a mild illness.

The school and nursery remain open and your child should continue to attend as normal, if they remain well. We encourage household members who feel able to, to continue with twice weekly LFD testing to help identify cases promptly. The advice to us, is for as many people as possible to complete regular LFD testing, particularly when we are experiencing a rise in cases.

We have been advised that all pupils within MARLIN class are to book in for a PCR test as there have been rising positive COVID cases within this particular class and therefore your child may have been in direct contact with a positive case.

If you have children in any other class and you think your child is a close contact to a positive COVID case, but you have not yet been contacted directly by NHS Test and Trace, then your child should take a PCR test via [Get a free PCR test to check if you have coronavirus \(COVID-19\) - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#) or by calling 119. **When ordering a PCR test it is important to check the box (online) or tell 119 'I've been told to get a test by my health protection team' and not 'I've been told to get a test by my school or nursery'**. Further guidance can be found at [Guidance for contacts of people with confirmed coronavirus \(COVID-19\) infection who do not live with the person - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#)

The local health protection team have recommended that parents wear face masks when on school premises and have asked that we re-instate our one way systems once again. I know I can rely on you all to adhere to these measures to ensure our school is as safe as possible and everyone is able to enjoy a lovely Christmas.

Whilst the children's Christmas events will still go ahead, we have been advised to not invite parents on to the school site for these. Christmas is NOT cancelled for our children, they will still be doing their nativity plays and concerts, we are just looking into ways in which we can record these so that parents are able to view these virtually.

This also means that our RPF Christmas Fair is postponed. However, watch this space as I know this dynamic parent group has some 'COVID secure' festive fun planned!

Please see below for some additional advice from UKHSA:

Yours sincerely,

Kelly Martin
Head of School



Rye Community Primary School & Pugwash Nursery
The Grove, Rye, East Sussex TN31 7ND
www.ryeprimary.co.uk

01797 222825
office@ryeprimary.co.uk

Executive Headteacher: Mr Barry Blakelock
Head of School: Miss Kelly Martin



01797 228695
pugwash@ryeprimary.co.uk

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

If your child develops symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19), they should get a PCR test and remain at home at least until the result is known. If negative, they can end self-isolation; if positive, your child should isolate until at least 10 days after their symptoms appeared. Symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19) are a new, continuous cough, or a high temperature, or a loss of, or change in, their normal sense of taste or smell (anosmia). 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. 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. Anyone with symptoms will be eligible for a PCR test and this can be arranged via [Get a free PCR test to check if you have coronavirus \(COVID-19\) - GOV.UK](#) (www.gov.uk) or by calling 119.

Instructions for people who live in the same household as someone with COVID-19 (tested positive or symptomatic awaiting a test result)

From 16 August, [you will not be required to self-isolate if you are a contact of someone who has tested positive for COVID-19](#) and any of the following apply:

- you are fully vaccinated
- you are below the age of 18 years 6 months
- you have taken part in or are currently part of an approved COVID-19 vaccine trial
- you are not able to get vaccinated for medical reasons

Fully vaccinated means that you have been vaccinated with an MHRA approved COVID-19 vaccine in the UK, and at least 14 days have passed since you received the recommended doses of that vaccine.

NHS Test and Trace will contact you to let you know that you have been identified as a contact and check whether you are legally required to self-isolate. If you are not legally required to self-isolate, you will be provided with advice on testing and given guidance on preventing the spread of COVID-19. Even if you do not have symptoms, [you will be advised to have a PCR test as soon as possible](#).

Any member of the household who is aged 18 years and 6 months or over and has only received one dose of COVID-19 vaccine or has not received any dose of the COVID-19 vaccination will still be required to self-isolate as household contact of a someone with COVID-19 symptoms awaiting testing and someone who has tested positive for COVID-19.

Please read the [stay at home guidance](#) which provides information on this.

Household members who are not exempt from isolation as close contacts should not go to work, school/college/childcare/education setting or public areas, and exercise should be taken within the home. If you require help with buying groceries, other shopping or picking up medication, or walking a dog, you should ask friends or family. Alternatively, you can order your shopping online and medication by phone or online. Household members staying at home for 10 days will greatly reduce the overall amount of infection the household could pass on to others in the community.



Rye Community Primary School & Pugwash Nursery
The Grove, Rye, East Sussex TN31 7ND
www.ryeprimary.co.uk



01797 222825
office@ryeprimary.co.uk

Executive Headteacher: Mr Barry Blakelock
Head of School: Miss Kelly Martin

01797 228695
pugwash@ryeprimary.co.uk

You could be fined if you do not self-isolate following a notification by NHS Test and Trace. You may be entitled to a one-off payment of £500 through the [NHS Test and Trace Support Payment scheme](#) if you are required to stay at home and self-isolate or you are the parent or guardian of a child who has been told to self-isolate.

Those who are [clinically extremely vulnerable](#) should be supported to minimise their contact with other people in the household during this period, regardless of whether others have symptoms or not.

Instructions for household contacts who are not required to self-isolate from 16 August

Even if you are vaccinated, you can still be infected with COVID-19 and pass it on to others. If you are identified as a contact of someone with COVID-19 but you are not required to self-isolate, you can help protect others by following the [guidance on how to stay safe and help prevent the spread](#). As well as getting a PCR test, you may also consider:

- limiting close contact with other people outside your household, especially in enclosed spaces
- wearing a face covering for those aged 11 and over in crowded places such as school/college/public transport
- limiting contact with anyone who is clinically extremely vulnerable
- taking part in [regular LFD testing](#)

You should follow this advice while the person in your household with COVID-19 is self-isolating.

For most people, coronavirus (COVID-19) will be a mild illness.

If your child does develop symptoms, you can seek advice from the nhs.uk website at <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/check-if-you-have-coronavirus-symptoms/>. If you are concerned about your child's symptoms, or they are worsening you can seek advice from NHS 111 at <https://111.nhs.uk/> or by phoning 111.

How to stop coronavirus (COVID-19) spreading

There are things you can do to help reduce the risk of you and anyone you live with getting ill with coronavirus (COVID-19):

- get vaccinated
- wash your hands with soap and water or use hand sanitiser regularly throughout the day
- 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
- meet people outside and avoid crowded areas
- open doors and windows to let in fresh air if meeting people inside
- wear a face covering when it's hard to stay away from other people – particularly indoors or in crowded places
- participate in twice weekly LFD testing following national guidelines We encourage you to log your results here: <https://www.gov.uk/log-test-site-covid19-results>

Further Information

Further information is available at

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/>