



Friday 25<sup>th</sup> September, 2020

Dear parents/carers,

It has been another eventful and action packed week here at Rothwell Primary School.

During our return to school, we have had a large focus on reconnecting and rebuilding with the children, with a strong focus on wellbeing, belonging, being grateful and the importance of our self-talk in helping us to promote positive wellbeing and mental health. These aspects have also been the focus of our virtual assemblies, where we have been connecting together as a school for children in KS1 and KS2. Our identity and feeling of belonging is an essential part of our school ethos and we are embracing the many different ways we can do this.

Our remote assembly this week has continued with our wellbeing focus, linked to our REACH value of being 'HEALTHY'. The focus on Monday's assembly was on the importance of self-talk and how we can empower the voice to be a positive and helpful tool. The children have been working on this crucial life skill this week and in our Friday celebration assembly, one child was chosen from each class who has modelled this life skill exceptionally well. These assemblies are a wonderful way for us to come together and to celebrate our children's achievements.



Congratulations to our superstars who were chosen this week. Fantastic self-talk and growth mindset.

Class 1 - Jack H; Class 1/2 - Georgie-Leigh and Class 2 - Jacob I

Class 3 - Grace B; Class 3/4 - Ben E and Class 4- Harley O

Class 5 - Noah S; Class 5/6- Harvey R and Class 6 - Jack J

#### Coronavirus update

As the number of new cases nationally and locally within Leeds increases greatly, and the city will have new lockdown rules at midnight, we continue to do all we can to make our school a safe and happy place for all.

#### How can you help to ensure our children and community are safe?

- Follow the guidance – including: if your child has any of the 3 main symptoms – see below - please DO NOT send your child to school.
- Contact us via email, rather than telephone wherever possible; this includes any absences. E-mails are being closely monitored during school hours.
- Once you have dropped your child off or collected your children, please leave the school site immediately.
- Keep your children with you at the end of the day. There are a small number of children and parents who I have had to ask several times; this is really important.
- Ensure you keep 2 metres + away from other families when waiting to collect your child.
- Leave a space down the centre of the back playground when collecting your child.
- If your child does have a positive result, please call school immediately or, if it is out of hours, please email us the confirmation message from the NHS, with the email SUBJECT named POSITIVE CASE. Please inform us first before sharing wider.
- Check your ParentPay details are up to date to ensure you receive the text message and email if we need to close a bubble. (Depending on when we are notified, this could be at very short notice – for example, the evening before or even that morning if we have just been informed.)
- Check your phone during the school day and ensure someone will be available to collect your child within 30 minutes if we need them to be collected.
- Please drop off and collect your child at the designated time. This is very important for all year groups, but particularly for our Reception Class children now they are all in full-time.

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## **Here are some questions and answer you may find helpful.**

### **What are the symptoms?**

The main symptoms of COVID-19 are:

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

### **How is it transmitted?**

COVID-19 is passed from person to person mainly by direct contact or large respiratory droplets. These droplets can be directly inhaled by the person, or can land on surfaces which another person may touch which can lead to infection if they then touch their nose, mouth or eyes.

### **What is the incubation period?**

The incubation period (i.e. time between exposure to the virus and developing symptoms) is between 1 and 14 days (median 5 days).

### **When is a person infectious?**

A person is thought to be infectious 48 hours before symptoms appear, and up to 10 days after they start displaying symptoms. If someone without symptoms tests positive then it is from 48 hours before the positive test till 10 days after the test.

### **Are children at risk of infection? (This is from the government guidance)**

Children of all ages can catch the infection but children make up a very small proportion of COVID-19 cases with about 1% of confirmed cases in England aged under 19 years. Children also have a much lower risk of developing symptoms or severe disease.

### **Can children pass on the infection?**

There is some uncertainty about how much asymptomatic or mildly symptomatic children can transmit the disease, but the evidence so far from a number of studies suggests children are less likely to pass it on and do not appear to play a major role in transmission. Most children with COVID-19 have caught the infection from adults and not the reverse. This is unlike 'flu.

### **Confirmed Case definition**

- Someone who has tested positive for COVID-19 with or without symptoms (new continuous cough, temperature or anosmia).

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## **Contact Definition**

A 'contact' is a person who has been close to someone who has tested positive for COVID-19 anytime from 2 days before the person was symptomatic (or 2 days before a test if no symptoms) up to 10 days from onset of symptoms (this is when they are infectious to others). For example, a contact can be:

- people who spend significant time in the same household as a person who has tested positive for COVID-19
- sexual partners
- a person who has had face-to-face contact (within one metre), with someone who has tested positive for COVID-19, including:
  - being coughed on
  - having a face-to-face conversation within one metre
  - having skin-to-skin physical contact, or
  - contact within one metre for one minute or longer without face-to-face contact
- a person who has been within 2 metres of someone who has tested positive for COVID-19 for more than 15 minutes
- a person who has travelled in a small vehicle with someone who has tested positive for COVID-19 or in a large vehicle or plane near someone who has tested positive for COVID-19

More guidance on contacts is available at:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/guidance-for-contacts-of-people-with-possible-or-confirmed-coronavirus-covid-19-infection-who-do-not-live-with-the-person/guidance-for-contacts-of-people-with-possible-or-confirmed-coronavirus-covid-19-infection-who-do-not-live-with-the-person>

**What should be done if a Child or member of staff, NOT currently in the school, develops COVID-19 symptoms?**

**Anyone who develops symptoms of COVID-19 should immediately self-isolate for at least 10 days from the onset of symptoms.**

***They should not attend school and should follow the steps below.***

- Parent/Carers should notify the school of their child's absence, date of onset of symptoms, actual symptoms and which class they are normally in. Please do this via email.
- Read [Stay at home](#) guidance for isolation advice for Child/member of staff and their households. The person with symptoms should isolate for at least 10 days starting from the first day of their symptoms.
- Arrange to get your child tested via nhs.uk online or by contacting NHS 119 via telephone if they do not have internet access. Feedback has been that this is taking some time; just keep trying, even if it says there are no tests available at that time as we are finding tests are being released throughout the day. The online system is recommended, as you can refresh this every so often. A new drive through testing centre has now opened, which will hopefully help with this.

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- Members of the household without symptoms should self-isolate for 14 days. This applies even if they are tested themselves and are negative for COVID 19. This is because they have been in contact with a positive case/ person displaying symptoms.

### What if a child or member of my household tests positive?

- If the child or member of the household test negative, other members of their household can stop self-isolating and return to the setting. If they feel well and no longer have symptoms similar to coronavirus (COVID-19), they can stop self-isolating. They could still have another virus, such as a cold or flu - in which case it is still best to avoid contact with other people until they are better.

If anyone at home or in of school has a confirmed case of COVID-19, anyone who is considered a contact will also have to isolate for 14 days **and only get a test if showing symptoms**. Regardless of whether their own test is positive or negative, they would still have to isolate for 14 days. (If contacted by Test and Trace, only the contact themselves would have to isolate. Other members of their household would only isolate if they or another member of the family has symptoms).

### If my child has a positive test, when should I inform the school?

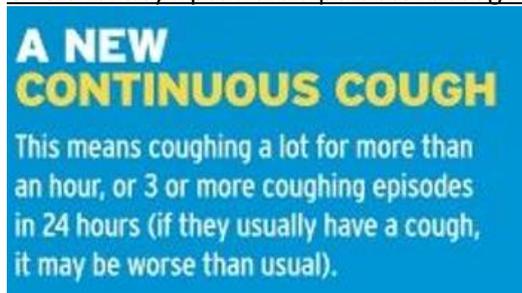
Please do this as soon as possible, via the telephone during the hours of 8:30am-3:30pm or email out of hours, with the confirmation of the result. Use the subject as CONFIRMED CASE [admin@rothwell-pri.leeds.sch.uk](mailto:admin@rothwell-pri.leeds.sch.uk)

### What will happen if someone in my child's bubble tests positive for COVID-19?

We are organised into class bubbles and are trying to have the same consistent adults within the class bubbles or phase bubble. If there is a confirmed case within your child's class, we will have to close the bubble immediately. Please note that test results are coming through during the day and at night time. If we are informed of a positive case, this could be during the evening and potentially mean that we are having to close the bubble immediately the next day. As always, we would give you as much notice as possible, but as I'm sure you will appreciate, we are not in control of when yourselves or school staff receive the call.

In terms of any additional bubbles closing, we will be advised by the DFE, PHE or Leeds City Council on each scenario as it depends on several variables.

### One of the symptoms is a persistent cough. What is classed as a persistent cough?



### Where should my contact details be updated?

It is absolutely crucial to ensure that your contact details on ParentPay are up to date– for yourselves and additional contacts. Work contact details should be added - **if these details are not yet on ParentPay, please add them as soon as possible.**

Part of our home school agreement you have signed says that you will ensure your contact details are up-to-date and that you or someone (ideally someone in your household) are able to come to school to collect your child within 30 minutes, if needed. We really need your help to ensure that a child showing symptoms will be able to be collected within this time. This will not only help to reassure the child showing symptoms, but will also reduce the possible risk of transmission.

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What will my child be provided with for their home learning if they are isolating, but are fine to do their learning?  
 If you inform us via email that your child will be absent as they have Coronavirus symptoms, we will be able to link work to your child's Tapestry account if they are in Nursery or Reception. If your child is in KS1 or KS2, we will be able to open their Google Classroom account and set them work for this period.

If a class bubble has to collapse for a longer period of time, we will be using this same platform, with some additional resources. **Please see below for further information regarding how we plan to manage this.**

As with all schools, we are following the guidance to minimise the risk of transmission and have therefore had numerous children and staff, or children of staff members, having to isolate and be tested, then await the results. We are all pulling together, however this does mean that several staff are having to work in different roles within school. We would therefore appreciate your support, understanding and patience at this time. Please email us with any absences, queries or requests, rather than telephoning the office or trying to speak to staff on the playground unnecessarily on the playground in passing.

## INFORMATION FOR PARENTS & CARERS

Everyone has a role to play in keeping our schools safe and helping to stop the spread of COVID-19.

YOU SHOULD BOOK A COVID-19 TEST IF YOUR CHILD HAS:

A HIGH TEMPERATURE

This means they feel hot to touch on their chest or back (you do not need to measure their temperature).

OR

A NEW CONTINUOUS COUGH

This means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours (if they usually have a cough, it may be worse than usual).

OR

A LOSS OR CHANGE TO THEIR SENSE OF SMELL OR TASTE

This means they've noticed they cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal.

IF YOUR CHILD DOES NOT HAVE SYMPTOMS OF COVID-19 BUT HAS OTHER COLD-LIKE SYMPTOMS, SUCH AS A RUNNY NOSE, THEY DO NOT NEED TO BE TESTED AND THEY OR MEMBERS OF YOUR HOUSEHOLD DO NOT NEED TO SELF-ISOLATE. YOUR CHILD CAN ATTEND SCHOOL IF FIT TO DO SO.

HERE'S WHAT TO DO IF:

YOUR CHILD HAS COVID-19 SYMPTOMS

WHAT TO DO?

- DO NOT SEND YOUR CHILD TO SCHOOL
- Book a COVID-19 test
- Household self-isolates
- Inform school immediately about test result

WHEN CAN MY CHILD RETURN?

Your child can return to school if the test is negative providing they are well enough, have not had a fever for 48 hours and if they haven't been advised to self-isolate by the PHA Contact Tracing Service.

YOUR CHILD TESTS POSITIVE FOR COVID-19

WHAT TO DO?

- DO NOT SEND YOUR CHILD TO SCHOOL
- Inform school immediately about test result
- Self-isolate for at least 10 days as advised by the PHA.

WHEN CAN MY CHILD RETURN?

Your child can return to school after 10 days even if they still have a cough / loss of smell or taste. These symptoms can last for several weeks.

SOMEBODY IN MY HOUSEHOLD HAS COVID-19 SYMPTOMS

WHAT TO DO?

- DO NOT SEND YOUR CHILD TO SCHOOL
- The household member should book a COVID-19 test
- Household self-isolates
- Inform school immediately about test result

WHEN CAN MY CHILD RETURN?

Your child can return to school if the symptomatic household member's test is negative and if they haven't been advised to self-isolate by the PHA Contact Tracing Service.

SOMEBODY IN MY HOUSEHOLD TESTS POSITIVE FOR COVID-19

WHAT TO DO?

- DO NOT SEND YOUR CHILD TO SCHOOL
- Inform school immediately about test result

WHEN CAN MY CHILD RETURN?

Your child can return to school when they have completed 14 days of self-isolation without any symptoms\*.

CONTACT TRACING HAS IDENTIFIED MY CHILD AS A CLOSE CONTACT

WHAT TO DO?

- DO NOT SEND YOUR CHILD TO SCHOOL
- Self-isolate for at least 14 days as advised by the PHA Contact Tracing Service

WHEN CAN MY CHILD RETURN?

Your child can return to school when they have completed 14 days of self-isolation without any symptoms\*.

YOUR CHILD HAS BEEN IN CONTACT WITH SOMEONE WHO HAS BEEN IDENTIFIED AS A CLOSE CONTACT

WHAT TO DO?

- Attend school as normal
- If your child does not have any COVID-19 symptoms they should carry on with normal activities.

WHEN CAN MY CHILD RETURN?

Your child can return to school when they have completed 14 days of self-isolation without any symptoms\*.

YOUR CHILD HAS TRAVELLED ABROAD AND HAS TO SELF-ISOLATE

WHAT TO DO?

- DO NOT SEND YOUR CHILD TO SCHOOL
- Self-isolate for 14 days in line with quarantine advice

WHEN CAN MY CHILD RETURN?

Your child can return to school when they have completed 14 days of self-isolation without any symptoms\*.

\*If your child has been identified as a close contact of a case of COVID-19, or has returned from travel abroad and is self-isolating, they must self-isolate for 14 days regardless of a negative COVID-19 test result.

Further information, including Frequently Asked Questions for Parents and Carers, can be found on the Department of Education's website at [www.education-ni.gov.uk](http://www.education-ni.gov.uk)

EDUCATION RESTART

WE ALL MUST DO IT TO GET THROUGH IT

STAY SAFE

SAVE LIVES

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## Other important information:

### Home Learning

As with all aspects of school since returning in September, we have been reviewing the systems and expectations so that, if needed in the future, we are in a position to continue and build on the provision provided for all children during last year's lock down.

Next week, all classes in KS1 and KS2 will receive a lesson taught using Google Classroom. During these sessions, children will be taught how to log-on, find their work in their 'Assignments', how to complete their work (sometimes using text boxes or Google Slides) as well as how to 'submit' their work to their teacher. By modelling these strategies in class, including the importance of managing their own learning and setting personal goals, children will be well prepared for any online learning set.

Following on from this lesson, all children will be set a brief online task to be completed at home using Google Classroom next Friday. The purpose of this will be to see if all children can access the learning, to find out if passwords work for Google Classroom, as well as identify any families who need support with the technology or who are not able to access it. We are aware that this will be the first time that children in Year 1 will have accessed Google Classroom – documents to support with this will also be provided. Following this, teachers will then be in a position to provide support and advice when needed. **More information to follow next week.**

### Reading

Thank you for your patience and support with reading at home. At the moment, one question we have been asked is how you can best to support your child with reading as books are not being sent home at the moment, but are using the Rising Stars.

- Reading regularly at home is an essential part of children's development. Not only does it foster a lifelong love of reading, it supports their understanding in all areas of the curriculum which is essential in helping all children reach their potential.
- Rising Stars, the school's online reading scheme, does support children's reading, with books assigned to their current reading level. We do recommend that these books are read by your child as they provide many of the skills needed to be a fluent reader with a great understanding of the text. These skills build over time.
- However, we also recognise that these online books are not the only books that should be read. Children should be encouraged to read their own books from home alongside these, as these will often be the books they love to read and allow them to follow their own interests. Although there are no reading records sent home at the moment, if children want to record the pages they read each day (just like they used to), this would be great - I know that class teachers look forward to hearing about the exciting range of books read at home
- Children who have progressed through the reading scheme and are 'Free Readers' can just read their own books, keeping a record of what they have read.
- Children in Reception, as they are still settling into class, will have books assigned soon. In the meantime, enjoy sharing books and building that love of stories and books. Continue to engage with the Home Challenge posted on Tapestry. Any photograph observations linked to the challenge will be shared on the big screen on Monday.

We are hoping to look at how we can send books home safely over the next couple of weeks.

Have a great weekend!  
Many thanks.

Leila Rothenburg  
Headteacher.

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