



## Pinchbeck East Primary School

### IMPORTANT – PLEASE KEEP

This document should be kept safe for future reference. It explains what to do in the case of a suspected or confirmed case of Covid-19 and should be read in conjunction with the schools' risk assessment (school website/Covid folder) and the most up to date Government "Stay At Home" regulations.

We will endeavour to keep the links in this document updated but if you do log on, please double check you are looking at the most up to date versions in the NHS and government websites.

When using the new **Stay At Home** advice, please use the hyperlinks, 'symptoms' and 'testing' in the 'main messages' section. These hyperlinks give more detailed information and explanation.

#### Q1. My child doesn't feel well – should they come to school?

If it is a seasonal cold or cough, and your child is well enough in themselves – yes come to school.

If they show **ANY** of the symptoms of Covid-19, no matter how mild, they **MUST NOT** attend school. The symptoms are:

- A **new continuous** cough
- A high temperature
- A loss of, or change in, your normal sense of taste or smell (anosmia)

If in any doubt, log onto NHS (<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/>) and check your symptoms. There is a very useful guide for parents as well.

#### Q2. I think my child has the symptoms. What should I do?

- Log on to the NHS website (<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/>) and follow the instructions regarding testing and self-isolation.
- Check and follow the most up to date "Stay At Home" advice <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-stay-at-home-guidance/stay-at-home-guidance-for-households-with-possible-coronavirus-covid-19-infection>
- If the suspected case occurs within the school hours whilst your child is in our care, we will follow the process explained in the **RISK ASSESSMENT** (school website/Covid folder)
- If the symptoms or test results are received "out of schools hours" please see Q9 below.
- We ask that you keep the school updated on your child's health during self-isolation so that we can continue to support the child from school. If they are fit enough to complete schoolwork, we will provide it and support them during their return to school.

#### Q3. I have collected my child from school because you think they have symptoms. What should I do now?

We will support you when you come and collect your child and advise on the next steps. This is explained in the **RISK ASSESSMENT** on the school website (COVID folder). You will need to:

- Log onto the NHS (<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/>) and follow the instructions regarding testing and self-isolation.
- Check and follow the most up to date "Stay At Home" advice <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-stay-at-home-guidance/stay-at-home-guidance-for-households-with-possible-coronavirus-covid-19-infection>
- **Parents/carers must notify the school immediately of the results of the test.**
- We need to know the outcome of the test result so that we can trace contacts and complete any deep cleaning that is needed.
- We ask that you keep the school updated on your child's health during self-isolation so that we can continue to support the child from school. If they are fit enough to complete schoolwork, we will provide it and support them during their return to school.

**Q4. I have collected my child from school because you think they may have symptoms. They have been tested and the result is “negative”. Can they return to school?**

The government advice to school say, *“If someone tests negative, if they feel well and no longer have symptoms similar to Covid-19, they can stop self-isolating. They could 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. Other members of the household can stop self-isolating.”*

**Q5. My child has tested positive for Covid-19. How long do they need to be off school for?**

Please check and follow the most up to date “Stay At Home” advice:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-stay-at-home-guidance/stay-at-home-guidance-for-households-with-possible-coronavirus-covid-19-infection>. At the moment, this says “at least 10 days” and only if symptoms (other than a cough and loss of smell/taste) have gone. The advice states, ‘if you still have a temperature you should keep self-isolating until your temperature returns to normal and seek medical advice’.

**Q6. I am worried, or my child is worried about missing work if they are off. What should we do?**

The most important issues are the health of the child and the protection of the rest of the children, staff and wider community from the virus.

As soon as you notify us of a positive test result or self-isolation a member of staff will be in touch to organise learning whilst your child is off and there will be nurture support for reintegration back into school, if it is needed.

**Q7. I am worried, or my child is worried about the attendance rate. What should we do?**

At the moment, it is inevitable that the attendance rates will fluctuate far more than normal due to the pandemic and the need for self-isolation. Please do not worry if attendance rates are affected by either a positive test result or the need to miss school because of self-isolation. Both the school and the Government understand that the pandemic will cause genuine absence.

**Q8. Someone in the household (not my child attending Pinchbeck East C of E) has symptoms or has tested positive. Can my child still come into school, as they do not have symptoms? NO.**

Please check and follow the most up to date “Stay At Home” advice for the regulations and duration of household self-isolation. <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-stay-at-home-guidance/stay-at-home-guidance-for-households-with-possible-coronavirus-covid-19-infection>

Amongst other things, the advice says ‘ALL other household members need to stay at home and not leave the house for 14 days’, if a person within the household tests positive for COVID -19.

However, if all the people or person in the household with symptoms receives a negative COVID-19 result, and your child is well enough and not showing any symptoms, they can return to school.

Please notify the school via the attendance line (01775 713933) on the first day of absence. We will contact you and organise learning and support during the period of household isolation.

**Q9. My child received a positive test result “out of school hours”. Who do I tell?**

- It is **crucial** that you notify the school of a positive result **immediately**.
- Speed is of the essence so that we can quickly identify close contacts and have them self-isolate too. The School’s Senior Leadership Team can track, trace and contact school based close contacts far quicker than the official routes (see Q11 & 12 below.)
- **Do not** email individual staff. Send an email to the general [enquiries@pinchbeckeast.lincs.sch.uk](mailto:enquiries@pinchbeckeast.lincs.sch.uk). Very few people have access to the enquiries email account and so we will keep information you send us confidential. Key staff check the enquiries account regularly out of school hours and we will pick up the information quickly.
- Give the email an obvious and **eye catching title** like “URGENT COVID – Child’s name and year group.

**Q10. Why is it so important that you know this information so quickly?**

We need to notify the appropriate families and staff so that they can self-isolate and protect themselves and the rest of the school community from this deadly virus.

**Q11. Does this mean that we do not need to follow the official Test and Trace process or use the app?**

**No** – it does not mean that you do not need to follow the official Test and Trace system. **Please do follow it.** It can be found at <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/testing-and-tracing>

**YES** – please download and use the app as soon as it becomes available.

**However**, as mentioned in Q9, we have found, that we can notify school based contacts quicker than the official systems (at the moment) and this protects the children, staff and the community more effectively.

**Q12. My child has been told to self-isolate because they are a close contact of a positive test. Does the rest of the household also need to self-isolate?**

Check and follow the most up to date “Stay At Home” advice <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-stay-at-home-guidance/stay-at-home-guidance-for-households-with-possible-coronavirus-covid-19-infection>.

At the moment, the Department For Education advice for schools is that *“household members of those close contacts who present home do not need to self-isolate themselves unless the student who is self-isolating subsequently develops symptoms. If (the contact) develops symptoms themselves within their 14 day isolation period they should follow the Stay at Home Advice and organise to be tested.”*

**Q13. My child was identified as a close contact, they do not have symptoms and we had a negative result from the Covid test. Can they return to school?**

No. Current Department for Education advice to schools is that *“they must remain in isolation for the remainder of the 14-day isolation period. This is because they could still develop Covid-19 within the remaining days.”*

**If you have further questions please check** the most up to date “Stay At Home” advice

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-stay-at-home-guidance/stay-at-home-guidance-for-households-with-possible-coronavirus-covid-19-infection>.

**If your question is not answered by reading this document, please contact the school enquires email and we will help you to find the answer.**