



The King's School

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THE KING'S SCHOOL

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Dear parents / carers

The King's School – Guidance relating to Attendance

In light of recent developments and communications, I wanted to offer some reassurance and guidance relating to school attendance. Attached you will find a Quick Reference Guide which addresses frequently asked questions in relation to attendance, as well as the NHS Advice for Schools which outlines symptoms that should result in isolation and testing. These are helpful resources when assessing if your child should be in school or not and when they are ready to return. Our Attendance Team will be on hand to deal with specific queries regarding individual circumstances.

Of course, there will be understandable nervousness around school attendance; however, the guidance remains the same and it is only if students are showing Covid-19 specific symptoms that they should be isolating and seeking a test. In other instances, a student may be unwell but not have Covid-19 and it is important to differentiate these instances. Unless a student is demonstrating Covid-19 symptoms or is in a home that needs to isolate due to a positive test outcome, they must return to school as soon as they are fit and able to do so. In instances where students need to isolate as a result of positive tests in the household, work from their lessons will be uploaded onto the relevant Google Classroom at the end of each school day to enable them to access learning.

Please rest assured that we will continue to keep you informed quickly regarding any confirmed cases and subsequent measures. Naturally, in times like this, there is concern and rumour amongst students. We will ensure that you have accurate, timely information and that we are taking appropriate measures based on test results and Public Health guidance.

Obviously, we are aware of the discussion in the community around our management of Covid-19 procedures. To be clear, all year group bubbles are completely separate at all times. This includes breaks and lunchtime. Whilst certain year groups have their lunch at the same time, they are in completely separate areas.

In order to further minimise risk, please remind your child that when walking to and from school they should be in groups of less than six and wearing a face mask when entering a shop or using public transport.

Should you have any concerns please do not hesitate to contact school.

Yours sincerely

Mr A Lunn
Assistant Headteacher

⚠ Important ⚠

Advice for schools

CORONAVIRUS SYMPTOMS IN CHILDREN

A CHILD WHO DEVELOPS ONE OR MORE OF THE FOLLOWING SYMPTOMS SHOULD BE CONSIDERED AS A POTENTIAL CORONAVIRUS CASE:



NEW CONTINUOUS COUGH

This means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or three or more coughing episodes in 24 hours (if the child usually has a cough, it may be worse than usual)



FEVER (TEMPERATURE OF 37.8°C OR HIGHER)

The child will also feel hot to touch on their chest or back



A LOSS OR CHANGE TO SENSE OF SMELL OR TASTE

this means the child has noticed they cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal.

MOST CHILDREN WITH CORONAVIRUS HAVE AT LEAST ONE OF THESE SYMPTOMS.



If a child is unwell with one or more of these specific symptoms they should be told not to come into school or sent home as soon as possible and advised to get a coronavirus test. **ONLY** those children with one or more of these symptoms or those advised by their clinician or Local Authority should get a test.



Children reporting other symptoms such as a headache, sore throat, runny or sniffly nose, earache, itchy eyes, lethargy or tiredness **WITHOUT** a fever should **NOT** be treated as potential coronavirus cases or advised to take a test.

If the national guidance on symptoms of coronavirus in children changes, updated information will be provided at a local level as soon as possible. This information about coronavirus symptoms in children can be shared with all school teaching and administration staff as well as parents and carers where necessary.

For further guidance on coronavirus testing for schools, please read the letter from PHE and NHS Test and Trace to school and college leaders at: bit.ly/phe-schools



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Attendance quick reference guide for parents/carers during Covid-19

What to do if...	Action	Return to school when...
My child has coronavirus symptoms	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Do not come to school • Contact school daily • Self Isolate • Get a test • Contact school as soon as you get the test result back 	The test comes back negative OR 10 days after the onset of the illness.
My child tests positive for coronavirus	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Do not come to school • Self Isolate for at least 10 days after onset of illness. Inform school immediately regarding result of test 	They can return (after 10 days) even if they still have a cough or loss of smell/taste as these symptoms can last for several weeks after the infection has gone.
Someone in my house has coronavirus symptoms	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Do not come to school • Self Isolate • Contact school daily. • Household member to get a test • Inform school immediately of the test result 	The household member test result is negative.
Someone in my household has tested positive for coronavirus	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Do not come to school • Self Isolate for 14 days from when the member of their household first had symptoms. 	The child has completed 14 days of self isolation.
NHS Test and Trace has identified my child as a 'close contact' of somebody with symptoms or a confirmed case of coronavirus	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Do not come to school Self Isolate for 14 days 	The child has completed 14 days of self isolation.
My child has travelled and has to self isolate as part of the quarantine period	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Do not come to school • Self Isolate for 14 days Avoid taking holidays in term time, • Consider quarantine requirements when booking future holidays. 	The 14 day quarantine period has been completed.
We have received medical advice that my child must resume shielding.	Do not come to school Access online learning as instructed by the school. Shield	Restrictions are lifted

Full DfE Guidance

[Addendum: recording attendance in relation to coronavirus \(COVID-19\) during the 2020 to 2021 academic year](#)