



The Paragon School

Covid Update

Our aim is to publish with the bulletin each week an update on our arrangements for mitigating the risks of the spread of Covid in our school community.

This will include information regarding any changes to our arrangements in school as a result of new guidance from the government. We will also include any changes we are making as a result of our ongoing internal review of procedures and risk.

The Covid Update is also a chance for us to answer some of parents' more frequently asked questions about what might happen under a given scenario. This obviously remains a rapidly evolving situation and we thank you for your support as we try to stay one step ahead in our planning.

We hope you find this to be a useful document each week, and would of course welcome your feedback.

Symptomatic? Please stay at home...

We cannot stress highly enough the importance of keeping your child off school if they, or anyone in the household, is displaying any one of the symptoms of Covid-19. The symptoms are:

- **a high temperature** – this means you feel hot to touch on your chest or back (you do not need to measure your temperature)
- **a new, continuous cough** – this means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours (if you usually have a cough, it may be worse than usual)
- **a loss or change to your sense of smell or taste** – this means you've noticed you cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal

We understand that this will impact families fairly regularly throughout the Autumn Term, and will be a frustration for us all, but we must do our part to keep school community as safe as possible.

Please note that the school cannot advise on types of cough.

Having previously had Covid is not a guarantee of immunity.

There is helpful guidance from the government on staying at home [here](#).

What if I need to get a test?

We can welcome children who have had symptoms back to school once they have a negative Covid test result. You can get a test [here](#).

Anecdotal feedback we are receiving is that it is much easier to get through the various steps and arrange a test after 10am. Before this time the website is very slow or shows no availability

Communication

We will not be informing all parents every time a child or staff member at the school or member of their household is tested for Covid. The number of tests performed nationally is currently 17,619,897. Of these, 98% have come back negative. It is probable that, once flu season arrives, we will have a significant number of tests going on across our 171 families and 68 staff. This is positive We hope you understand the decision not to keep you informed of all tests going on.

Work for children who are well but isolating

Over the course of this term, there will be some children who are well but need to stay at home for a couple of days whilst they await a test or test results. There may also be a situation in which a child needs to self-isolate for the full 14 days if they are a contact of a confirmed case. The school has built and will continue to develop a bank of learning resources for each year group, which will be uploaded to your child's showbie account in the event that they cannot be at school. In the event that your child cannot attend school but is well enough to complete work, please contact their class teacher, who will upload relevant tasks to Showbie.

Please note that different arrangements will be in place in the event that a whole class or year group needs to isolate for 14 days.