



The William Henry Smith School

1st March 2022

Dear Parent/Carer

I do hope all is well.

Thank you for your support in the efforts to keep our school community safe during the Covid-19 pandemic.

The purpose of this letter is to provide guidance to parents and carers following the statement made by the Government on 21st February about Living with Covid.

From 24th February 2022 in England, whilst staff and students in **most** education and childcare settings are no longer asked to test twice a week, this is not the same for Special Schools.

Children, young people, and staff must continue to take a lateral flow twice weekly (Monday and Thursday), and report any positive result to the school.

Children and young people, and staff with Covid-19 should not attend their education or childcare setting while they are infectious. They should take a lateral flow test from 5 days after their symptoms started (or the day their test was taken if they did not have symptoms) followed by another one the next day. If both these test results are negative, they can return to the setting as long as they feel well enough to do so and do not have a temperature. Anyone with Covid-19 who does not wish to take lateral flow tests should stay at home for 10 full days.

There is no longer a requirement for close contacts to undertake daily testing or self-isolate if unvaccinated. New guidance sets out precautions for reducing risk to yourself and others.

Although the remaining Covid-19 restrictions are being lifted, we would like to take this opportunity to remind parents and carers of the general principles and expectations for preventing and limiting the spread of common childhood illnesses in school settings.

The main symptoms of Covid-19 are recent onset of any of the following:

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

If your child develops any of these symptoms, you should keep them at home and arrange a PCR test for them. If the result is negative, they can come back to school as long as they are feeling well enough and do not have a temperature.

The William Henry Smith School, Boothroyd Lane, Brighouse, West Yorkshire HD6 3JW
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Registered Charity: 529132



Your child should not come into school if they are feeling unwell. For some illnesses, there are recommended periods for children to be kept away from school and some examples are included below.

Illness	Recommended exclusion period	Advice
Chickenpox	Until all vesicles (spots) have crusted over	
Impetigo	Until lesions are crusted and healed, or 48 hours after starting antibiotic treatment	
Measles	Four days from onset of rash	Preventable by vaccination
Scarlet fever	Child can return 24 hours after starting antibiotic treatment	
Mumps	Exclude child for five days after onset of swelling	Preventable by vaccination
Diarrhoea and vomiting	48 hours from last episode of diarrhoea or vomiting	
Flu (influenza)	Until recovered	
Covid-19	Advised to stay home for 5 days and LFT test on day 5 and 6	Vaccinations are available
Whooping cough	48 hours from starting antibiotic treatment or 21 days from onset of illness if no antibiotic treatment	Preventable by vaccination
Head lice	None	Treatment recommended where live lice have been seen
Threadworms	None	Treatment recommended for child and household contacts

We do know that there has been a lot of information, and I do hope that this helps. Please contact our School Nurses for any further support.

Best wishes,



Sue Ackroyd
Principal

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