



MERIDIAN COMMUNITY PRIMARY SCHOOL AND NURSERY

Learning for Life



Wednesday 1st December 2021

Dear Parents and Carers

COVID-19 Update

Symptom testing

Please remember that if your child is displaying symptoms of COVID-19, however mild, then you need to get a PCR test to confirm if they are negative before they can return to school. Lateral flow tests are to find out if people without symptoms are negative or positive. If your child has a positive lateral flow test without symptoms, you will need to get a PCR test to confirm this result.

Refusing to carry a PCR test

We are starting to see a few parents who are refusing to carry out a PCR test on their children if they are showing symptoms. The Government guidance is very clear, if your child is displaying symptoms (temperature, continuous cough, loss of taste and/or smell) then you are advised to isolate your child and complete a PCR test. Once the PCR test has returned, if it is negative, your child can return to school. If it is positive, they will need to isolate at home. **If you do not wish to carry out a PCR test on your child who is showing symptoms, then you will need to isolate them for 10 days from the onset of the symptoms.**

Refusing children into school

Government Guidance:

"If you suspect your child has coronavirus or has a positive test

Do not send your child to their nursery or school if:

- *they are showing one or more coronavirus (COVID-19) symptoms*
- *they have had a positive test result*
- *there are other reasons requiring them to stay at home, for example, they are required to quarantine, or they are awaiting their PCR result after a positive lateral flow test*

You should follow public health advice on when to self-isolate and what to do.

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If you insist on your child attending nursery, school, or college when they have symptoms, they can take the decision to refuse your child if, in their reasonable judgement, it is necessary to protect other pupils and staff from possible infection with COVID-19."

I do not want to have to refuse children attending school so please help us by either getting a PCR test or isolating your child at home for 10 days.

Sending children home from school

The advice from the Government is that if a child is showing symptoms, however mild, that we send them home and ask you to get a PCR test. If you do not wish to do this, then you will need to keep your child at home for 10 days from the day they were sent home.

For more information about guidance for parents, please click [here](#)

Thank you so much for your support and understanding during this time. It is so important that we work together to keep each other safe.

Yours sincerely

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