



Chapelhouse Road
Chelmsley Wood
Birmingham
B37 5JS
United Kingdom
Telephone Number: 0121 329 4600
solihull@graceacademy.org.uk

14 October 2021

Dear Parent/Carer,

Over the last week we have been made aware that a small number of the school community have tested positive for COVID-19. The situation is being closely monitored and public health advisers are working closely with the school. This letter is to inform you of the current situation and provide advice on how to support your child. Please be reassured that for most people, coronavirus (COVID-19) will be a mild illness.

There are a number of outbreak management actions that may be taken to reduce the spread of COVID-19, including increasing cleaning, ventilation, possibly reintroducing face coverings and reducing mixing in schools. You will be informed of these possible measures if needed. We are extremely mindful of the negative impact being absent has on students' and young people's education, therefore, restricting attendance at school will only be considered as an absolute last resort.

The school currently remains open, and providing your child remains well they can continue to attend school as normal.

What to do if your child develops symptoms of COVID-19

If your child develops symptoms of COVID-19 (new, continuous cough, high temperature, loss/change in taste/smell), they should remain at home for at least 10 days from the date when their symptoms appear. Anyone with symptoms will be eligible for testing which can be arranged via the [NHS website](#) or by calling 119.

If the person with symptoms receives a positive test result, all household members who are fully vaccinated (i.e. had their second vaccine more than 14 days ago) or are aged below 18 years 6 months, do not need to isolate, but should access a free PCR test. Adults who are not fully vaccinated need to isolate for 10 days from the case's first symptoms (or test date if they had no symptoms). Full guidance can be found on the [Government's Website regarding Stay at Home Guidance](#).

If your child receives a negative PCR test result, they can return to school when they have been fever free for 48 hours and are feeling well.

Contact tracing

Schools/settings are no longer required to trace close contacts of cases, and if your child tests positive for COVID-19, the local contact tracing team will be in touch to identify close contacts. Contact tracers will ask about symptoms, test date and will help you to identify anyone they have been in close contact with during their infectious period. We appreciate you may not be able to identify all of those who have been in close contact with your child, however, we will work with you to identify as many as possible.

If your child is identified as a close contact, they will be contacted and advised to access a free PCR test (they do not need to isolate whilst waiting for the result).

How you can help

Symptoms - It is extremely important that all parents/carers are vigilant in spotting symptoms in their child(ren) and to not send children to school if they have COVID-19 symptoms. During this period when there are COVID-19 cases in schools, if you are in any doubt about your child's symptoms, please take them for a PCR test.

Testing - Asymptomatic COVID-19 testing is also extremely important in reducing the risk of the virus spreading and we encourage you to support your child in taking their tests at least twice per week and reporting their results.

Thank you for your support.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D Gelder', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Mr Darren Gelder

Principal

For and on behalf of Tove Learning Trust

in collaboration with Public Health at Solihull Council