

William Martin CofE Schools and Nursery

Executive Headteacher: Gina Bailey

Head of School: Claire Kearney



Experiencing life in all its fullness

Covid-19 related pupil absence

A quick reference guide for parents and staff (November 2021)

Tuesday 30th November 2021

Dear Parents,

We are aware that there are rising rates of COVID-19 within the school community; to limit the spread on the run up to Christmas, **we are re-introducing masks for all visitors to the school site.** We therefore ask that all parents, except those with a medical exemption, to wear masks whilst on the school premises, including playgrounds.

The School will now be asking families to do the following if a member of their household gets a positive PCR test:

- We will ask all siblings, children who attend the school to take a PCR test, and not attend school until a negative result has been provided.
- If they wish the child with a negative PCR test to return to school, we ask that each child takes a daily LFD test for 7 days.

If your child is unwell for any reason, they should not be in school. They will not enjoy being here and may give their illness to other children; therefore the best place for them is at home.

Symptoms for COVID-19 are:

- A high temperature
- A continuous cough
- Loss of taste or smell

If your child has a temperature of at least 37.6 C, for any period of time however short, they must not return to school until they have had a PCR test and it is negative or if it is positive, they isolate for 10 days. LFD test results are not acceptable if the child has one of the key symptoms. **A PCR test must be booked.**

If a child has cold symptoms, such as a runny nose or a cough (not continuous), but no temperature, they will be allowed back to school once they are well.

If your child has sickness or diarrhea, they must be off school for 48 hours after the last symptom.

The attached table gives parents more FAQs:



Our Core Christian Values: Perseverance, Justice, Respect, Trust, Compassion, Responsibility, Forgiveness, Peace

What to do if...	Action Needed	Return to school when...
<p>...my child has Covid-19 symptoms, Main symptom: - Temperature of at least 37.6 for any length time. May also have: -continuous cough -loss of taste and smell</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Do not come to school - Contact school to inform us - Get a PCR test - Inform the school immediately about the test result 	<p>...the test comes back negative or a period of 10 days has passed since the symptoms started, and the child feels well.</p>
<p>...my child tests positive for Covid-19.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Contact school to inform us either by phone or evenings or weekends email: head.harlow@dcvst.org - Agree an earliest date for possible return (minimum of 10 days). - PCR test all siblings who attend school - If siblings are negative they can resume school (continue to LFD for 7 days if attending school) 	<p>...10 days have passed since symptoms began, even if they still have a cough or loss of taste/smell. (These symptoms can last for several weeks.) AND the child feels well.</p>
<p>...my child tests negative.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Contact school to inform us. - Discuss when your child can come back (same day/next day). 	<p>...the test comes back negative.</p>
<p>...my child is ill with symptoms not linked to Covid-19.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Contact school to inform us. - Ring on each day of illness or give a date of likely return. 	<p>...after 48 hours following the last bout of sickness or diarrhoea (as per attendance policy)</p>
<p>...someone in my household has Covid-19 symptoms.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Contact school to inform us. - Household member to get a PCR test. - Inform school immediately about test result. 	<p>... child can continue attending school as long as they have no symptoms.</p>
<p>...someone in my household tests positive for Covid-19.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Contact school to inform us. - PCR test all members of household - PCR test all children who attend school - If children are negative they can resume school (continue to LFD for 7 days if attending school) - Agree an earliest date for possible return (minimum of 10 days). - Inform school of results as soon as possible 	<p>...the test comes back negative (continue to LFD for 7 days if attending school) or a period of 10 days has passed since the symptoms started, and the child feels well.</p>
<p>...NHS test and trace has identified my child as a close contact of somebody with confirmed Covid-19.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - All close contacts must take a PCR test - Contact school to inform us of results. - If positive agree an earliest date for possible return (minimum of 10 days). 	<p>...child can continue to attend school awaiting result. If positive...the child has completed 10 days of isolation.</p>
<p>...NHS test and trace has identified a household member (other than my child) as a close contact of somebody with symptoms or confirmed Covid-19.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - All close contacts must take a PCR test - Contact school to inform us of results. - Child can continue to attend school. 	<p>...child can continue to attend school</p>
<p>... a sibling attending another school has been sent home to self-isolate due to their being a positive case in their school.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Sibling must take a PCR test - William Martin child(ren) can continue to attend. 	<p>...child can continue to attend school</p>
<p>...my child's bubble is closed due to a Covid-19 outbreak in school.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Child must not come to school. - Support your child at home with remote education provided by your school. - Your child will need to self-isolate for 10 days. - Other siblings may continue to attend school. 	<p>...school inform you that the bubble will be reopened.</p>



If you are still worried, feel free to ring the office on 01279 424122 and speak to Mrs Hogg or Miss Bridges, or email admin@williammartin-inf.essex.sch.uk.

Very best wishes,

Gina Bailey

Executive Headteacher



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