



Costock C of E Primary School
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Dear parents/carers,

We hope you have all had a lovely summer and we are very much looking forward to welcoming all children back to school tomorrow. Please make sure you have fully read the guidance that we issued before the summer break and that we then re-sent last week.

I want to take this opportunity to outline the steps that we will be taking in school around suspected and confirmed cases of Covid-19 and what you can do to help us. Please remember that school attendance is mandatory again from the beginning of the autumn term. It is crucial that you monitor your child's health closely. We will not be informing parents and carers of every suspected case we encounter at school; as you can imagine, there will be a lot of coughs and sniffles as the winter season approaches and we will be proactive in our approach. We can assure you however, that if there is a confirmed case at any point, that we will follow all the guidance from the Local Authority and Public Health and keep you promptly and fully informed.

- DO NOT send your child into school if they, or anyone in your household, is displaying coronavirus (COVID-19) symptoms. Please inform the school immediately of their absence by e-mailing office@costock.notts.sch.uk.
- If anyone in the school becomes unwell with a new and persistent cough or a high temperature, or has a loss of or change in, their normal sense of taste or smell (anosmia), we will contact you to arrange for collection of your child (and any siblings) and you are advised to follow guidance for households with possible or confirmed coronavirus (COVID-19) infection, which sets out that they should self-isolate for at least 10 days and should arrange to have a test to see if they have coronavirus (COVID-19). The rest of your household must also self-isolate until the test results are known.
- If a pupil displays symptoms whilst in school they will be moved to an isolation area until they are collected. It is vital that you ensure you keep us up to date with all your contact details.
- You must advise us immediately of the outcome of the test results.
- If your child tests negative, if they feel well and no longer have symptoms similar to coronavirus (COVID-19), they can stop self-isolating. Other members of your household can stop self-isolating.
- If your child tests positive, you should follow the guidance for households with possible or confirmed coronavirus (COVID-19) infection and they must continue to self-isolate for at least 10 days from the onset of their symptoms and then return to school only if they do not have symptoms other than cough or loss of sense of smell/taste. This is because a cough or anosmia can last for several weeks once the infection has gone. The 10-day period starts from the day when they first became ill. If they still have a high temperature, they should keep self-isolating until their temperature returns to normal. Other members of their household should continue self-isolating for the full 14 days.
- We will take swift action in the event that we become aware that someone who has attended has tested positive for coronavirus (COVID-19). We will contact the local health protection team who will carry out a rapid risk assessment to confirm who has been in close contact with the person during the period that they were infectious, and ensure they are asked to self-isolate.

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- The health protection team will work with school to guide us through the actions we need to take and they will provide us with definitive advice on who must be sent home and the period of self-isolation that is required.
- As a school we are following all the necessary guidance so that we are in a position to provide the health protection team with all the information they need about close contacts etc. so that they can make swift and informed decisions.

I want to thank you all for your support over the coming few weeks and want to assure you that we will continue to keep in contact in a timely and appropriate manner.

Jane Mellor

Head Teacher

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