



COVID-19

Frequently asked Questions and Answers

Q. What is the school doing to prevent an outbreak of Covid-19?

A: The school is following the Department for Education's advice on effective infection protection and control which can be viewed on the school website, under 'Covid-19 Information', Priory School, September 2020 Return Plan.

Q. What are the main symptoms of Covid-19?

A. The Government guidance states the main symptoms are:

- A high temperature – this means you feel hot to touch on your chest or back (you do not need to measure your temperature).
- A new, continuous cough – this means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours (if you usually have a cough, it may be worse than usual).
- A loss or change to your sense of smell or taste – this means you have noticed you cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal.

Q. What should I do if my child or family member has symptoms of Covid-19?

A. The Government guidance states you should:

- Get a test to check if you have Covid-19 as soon as possible by visiting: <https://www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test> or calling NHS 111 if you are unable to access the online website.
- You and anyone you live with should stay at home and not have visitors until you get your test result – only leave your home to have a test. Anyone in your support bubble should also stay at home if they have been in close contact with the person displaying symptoms from either the day the symptoms started or during the 48 hours before they started.
- You should contact the Absence Line to report your child's absence in line with usual procedures. You must let us know if your child is displaying symptoms of Covid-19 and that you have arranged for them to have a test.

Q. My child has received a negative test result, what should I do?

A. Your child will be able to return to school as soon as they are well enough to do so. If any siblings have been self-isolating whilst awaiting test results, they can return to school immediately.

Q. My child has tested positive for Covid-19, what should I do?

A. If your child has received a positive test you must notify the school IMMEDIATELY. During normal school hours, you should telephone the main office number, 01628 600300 and ask to speak to either Mrs Gates, Mrs Proffitt, Miss O'Connor or Miss Moore. If you receive the result out of normal school hours (evenings or weekends), you should contact either:

Mrs Gates – 07308 600162

Miss O'Connor – 07308 599411

Miss Moore – 07931 265340

You will be asked several questions, including the following so please discuss this with your child beforehand if necessary:

- What symptoms has your child experienced?
- What date did the symptoms first appear?
- What date was your child tested?
- What date were the test results received (we will require a copy of the test result to be sent into school)?
- Who is in your child's friendship group?
- What clubs (if any) does your child attend?
- What other children (if any) outside of their bubble may your child have come into close contact with outside of school hours?

Your child will need to self-isolate for 10 days from the date of when the first symptoms appeared. After 10 days, as long as they do not have a fever and are well enough to do, so they can return to school.

Q. What is the definition of 'close contact'?

A. Government guidelines state that a 'contact' is a person who has been close to someone who has tested positive for COVID-19 anytime from 2 days before the person was symptomatic up to 10 days from onset of symptoms. They can be:-

- Anyone who has had face-to-face contact (within one metre) with someone who has tested positive for Covid-19 including:-
 - o being coughed on
 - o having a face-to-face conversation within one metre
 - o having skin-to-skin physical contact or
 - o contact within one metre for one minute or longer without face-to-face contact.
- A person who has been within 2 metres of someone who has tested positive for Covid-19 for more than 15 minutes.
- A person who has travelled in a large vehicle near someone who has tested positive for Covid-19.

Q. How long should the rest of the family self-isolate for following a confirmed case of Covid-19?

A. All other family members should self-isolate for 14 days from when the first symptoms appeared. They do not need to take a test unless they develop symptoms.

Q. What will the school do following a confirmed case of Covid-19?

A. Based on Government guidance, the school will carry out a dynamic risk assessment in order to establish how the infection can be contained. The school will contact the local Health Protection Team and Local Authority to discuss how best to proceed to ensure the outbreak is contained. A letter will be sent home to all parents informing that their child has come into close contact with someone who has tested positive and what they should do next. Another letter will be sent to all other parents informing that we have had a positive test in our school community and what remedial action has been taken. A text will be sent to parents advising them that an email has been sent. The school will continue to work with the Local Health Protection Team and the Local Authority throughout any bubble closure.

Q. My child's bubble has closed, should their siblings still attend school?

A. Yes. It is only necessary for the child whose bubble has closed to self-isolate, all other family members should carry on going to work or school as normal. The child that is required to self-isolate should follow Government guidance by staying at home and SHOULD NOT come into school with their parents to drop off or pick up other siblings. Other family members will only need to self-isolate if that child or other family member develops symptoms.

We understand that not all families have additional childcare at home. In the first instance, we ask that parents arrange for their support bubble, i.e. another family member, friend or neighbour to

drop off/pick up on their behalf, parents will need to inform the class teacher who this will be by emailing office@priorschool.com.

However, we have also listened to feedback from parents and appreciate that for a small number of you this really is not possible. We have therefore set up a "Drive and Drop" service for those children who have siblings in a bubble that has been forced to close. Further information can be found on the school website, under Covid-19 Information, Drive and Drop.

Q. What to do if a family member tests positive?

A. Government guidance states that the whole family are required to self-isolate for 14 days either from the date the first symptoms appeared, or if they did not have symptoms, from the date the positive test result was received. You are required to notify the school that a family member has tested positive and that your child will need to self-isolate. If your child becomes symptomatic during the 14 days self-isolation period, you will need to arrange for them to have a test. Please ensure you notify the school of this, as well as the test results once received.

Q. How will my child access their remote learning?

A. A paper pack will be issued to pupils upon notice that a bubble is closing. This pack will ensure that pupils have work to complete whilst their remote learning based on the current lessons being taught in class is uploaded onto the website or if they are unable to access the website or online learning.

A link to the daily class teams sessions will be emailed via Teachers2Parents as soon as possible after the bubble has closed.

Q. What happens if a class bubble closes outside of school hours and children have not been given their packs to take home?

A. As only the pupil in the closed bubble will need to self-isolate parents will be contacted by text and allocated a time slot (by class) that they will be able to come and collect the packs.

Q. I am entitled to free school meals, what will happen if my child has to self-isolate?

A. Whether your child is self-isolating due to a bubble closing or because they or a family member have developed symptoms/tested positive, they will still be entitled to a free school meal. Further details of this can be found on the school website under 'Covid-19 Information', Access to Free School Meals.

Q. Why are some children/staff going home to self-isolate and not others?

A. The school follows government guidance and advice from the local Health Protection team and Local Authority. With every confirmed positive case, the Senior Leadership Team will identify who has been in close contact with that member of the school community. This means that each positive test result is reviewed on a case-by-case basis, in some instances it may be necessary to close part of a bubble, a whole bubble, a number of bubbles or the whole school.

Q. Who should I contact if I have any safeguarding concerns with a pupil?

A. During the school hours you should call 01628 600300 and ask to speak to either Miss O'Connor, Mrs Barber or Mrs Gates. If the concerns are out of school hours, you should contact Miss O'Connor on 07308 599411.

Q. Who should I contact if I have any concerns about the school's response to the Coronavirus pandemic?

A. Any concerns should be emailed to office@priorschool.com and they will be forwarded on to a member of the Senior Leadership Team who will respond as quickly as possible.