

Monday 14<sup>th</sup> September 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

We realise that it is proving extremely difficult to access COVID-19 tests at the moment and understand your frustration. However, we ask that you still follow the guidelines below to protect our whole school community.

**Anyone who is ill with Covid-19 symptoms should not come into school.**

The main symptoms of coronavirus are:

- ✓ **a high temperature** – (37.8C or greater) 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've noticed you cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal

Most people with coronavirus have at least 1 of these symptoms.

**If someone becomes unwell with suspected Covid-19 symptoms whilst in school they are advised to self-isolate for at least 10 days, and to arrange a test.**

If **your child** becomes unwell with any of the common COVID-19 symptoms whilst at school, we will follow the procedures below:

- Move them to a separate room with a familiar adult
- Call you to collect them and any siblings who are also in school
- We will ask you to take your child for a COVID-19 test or complete one at home and advise us of the results
- Everyone in the household should continue to isolate until the test results come through.
- If the result is **negative** then they can return to school as soon as they are feeling well
- Siblings can also return to school
- If the test is **positive** then your child will need to self-isolate for at least 10 days
- The rest of the household will need to self-isolate for 14 days

The rest of the household should remain in isolation for 14 days from when the person who tested positive showed symptoms, even if they don't have symptoms themselves.

You will also be put in touch with the local contact tracing team so that other close contacts of your child can be identified. These close contacts will also be asked to self-isolate for 14 days.

If **you, or another member of your household**, becomes unwell with symptoms of COVID-19 then we ask that you collect your child(ren) from school. If anyone in the family tests positive then the whole household will need to self-isolate for 14 days.

This link on our website will take you to a range of activities for their year group so that your child can keep learning while they are self-isolating - <http://millbrook.swindon.sch.uk/activities-to-do-at-home/>

If there is a suspected outbreak of Covid-19 in the school, this will be managed by the school and local health teams. It should not be necessary to close the school unless health officials advise this. A mobile testing unit may be brought in to test affected pupils and staff. A large number of pupils may be asked to self-isolate at home as a precaution.

### **My child has cold symptoms - do I send them to school or not?**

This is all down to what the symptoms are.

If your child has any of the coronavirus symptoms which indicate that they need a test then they, and everyone else in the household, including siblings, should isolate straight away.

A runny nose, blocked nose or a sore throat are currently not recognised symptoms that would require a test.

If your child is feeling unwell with different symptoms, you should treat those as you normally would and seek medical assistance if necessary.

### **Should the whole family be tested?**

Only family members who have symptoms should be tested.

Thank you for your support in keeping the Millbrook School community safe.



Mrs Karen Pyman  
Headteacher – Millbrook Primary School



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Fulfilling Potential*

