

Faringdon Infant School

Part of the Faringdon Learning Trust

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Future of Faringdon; Including all; Supporting everyone to grow

Friday 12th November 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

COVID 19 cases in our school

Unfortunately, we have now had confirmation of 4 positive PCR results for those who were isolating from Cherry Class. These 4 people will continue to isolate in line with guidance. We send them all our best wishes for a speedy recovery. We are also aware of high numbers of cases in the local and wider school communities, including at Faringdon Junior School and Faringdon Community College.

Since these 4 cases are likely to have been in contact with one another, Public Health England consider that it is possible that in school transmission could have taken place, and we are asked to implement contingency measures as a result of this outbreak. Cherry and Maple classes have moved to working in class bubbles rather than as a year group and staff movement is minimised. Staff in more direct contact with the affected class, are LFT testing daily. All other year groups remain in year group bubbles. Other measures in place across the school are

- CO2 monitors are now installed in every classroom to monitor air quality
- Ventilation is maximised with doors and windows open throughout the day (please ensure that children are warmly dressed)
- Year group or Key Stage Assemblies are temporarily on hold
- Enhanced cleaning is taking place, including additional contracted cleaning time in the middle of the day
- Staff are wearing face coverings in indoor communal areas where there are multiple people (these are not worn in the classrooms for teaching)
- Break times and lunch times continue to be staggered with cleaning of tables, chairs and equipment in between sittings
- Risk assessments are planned for any activities or visits where movement, hygiene or contacts may be different than usual
- Hand washing and hand sanitising continues to be used on arrival, departure, and at transition points throughout the day
- Respiratory hygiene messages are given frequently and modelled for children (e.g., 'catch it, bin it, kill it', for use of tissues to wipe or blow noses).

We have received advice from the Department for Education and Public Health Thames Valley in relation to these measures and will continue to keep all contingency measures under review.

We continue to ask for your support in being cautious and vigilant. **In particular, we are asking your help with PCR testing your children (or other family members) if they are showing any one or more symptom of COVID 19, or if someone else in your household tests positive. Please do not send symptomatic children to school.**

In the case of any one symptom, your child should receive a PCR test from a test centre, or via post. Below is the information from Government and Public Health on getting tested, and here is the link to the Government site where you can book a test for yourself or your child. Please note that while Lateral Flow Tests give us some ongoing information while people remain well, PCR tests are required for use in the event of any symptom or for those who are identified as close contacts.

<https://www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test>

If you have any of these 3 coronavirus (COVID-19) symptoms, even if mild, use this service to get a polymerase chain reaction (PCR) test as soon as possible:

- a high temperature
- a new, continuous cough
- you've lost your sense of smell or taste or it's changed

You can order a PCR test kit to be sent to your home or book an appointment at a walk-in or drive-through test site.

If you have symptoms, [self-isolate](#) straight away until you get your results. Do not leave home, except to post a test kit or for a PCR test appointment. [Check if the people you live with need to self-isolate on NHS.UK.](#)

Please remind your child about the importance of these actions to help them to stay well.

Thank you for your support with this. Rapid identification of cases so that they can isolate and prevent further spread, is one of the ways we can stop COVID 19 from having greater impact upon our school.

Best wishes,

Sally Robins and the FIS Team