



# The Priory Primary School

*'Inspiring a Love of Learning'*

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Dear Parents,

Today's email focuses on the 'what ifs'.

Most notably - what if your child starts to demonstrate symptoms (defined below). If these symptoms occur at home, it is essential that you not bring your child into school. Please inform the school of the symptoms your child is displaying. The next stage will be to take your child for a COVID test. Anyone with symptoms can now get a test - regardless of age.

The test can be arranged via the following link: <https://www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test>

Following the test - if your child receives a 'negative' test - they can return to school once they have fully recovered from their symptoms.

If the test is 'positive' your child (and your entire household) must begin the two week period of self isolation. It is essential that you contact the school to inform us of the test results. Before returning to school your child needs to be fully recovered from all of the symptoms - and ideally a second test is taken to confirm a 'negative' result.

We now move onto - the what if a member of your household demonstrates symptoms - what should happen with your child's attendance to school? This is a more complex answer - from the moment another family member demonstrates symptoms - your child (and yourselves) should isolate for 14 days, unless the family member receives a negative test result - in which case your child can then return to school - as long as your child is not displaying the symptoms.

If your child demonstrates any of the symptoms (see below) whilst at school - they will be immediately isolated from their peers. You will be contacted and expected to collect your child as soon as possible. Following this we will stay in communication with you as you go through the process of self isolation, or until your child takes the COVID test.

I will now cover what if a child in your child's class is showing symptoms / or has a positive test result. The school will inform you if a (unnamed) child in the same class bubble has tested positive. As long as your child is not demonstrating any symptoms then they can continue to



attend school and the class bubble will continue with a significant monitoring process - which will include daily temperature check for all pupils in the bubble..

If 2 or more pupils / members of staff in the bubble test positive, the school will inform the local authority who may send a mobile testing unit to the school to carry out rigorous tests of the children in the bubble / across the school.

Hopefully this guidance demonstrates how both the government and the school is doing as much as possible to ensure schools will not need to close, however if there is a local lockdown resulting in school closures or an outbreak of the virus within the Priory - then we communicate continuously with you and set out our arrangements for home learning - which would include lessons taught digitally online.

If following this guidance - you have any related questions do please contact the school's office.

#### The Government's Current Definition of COVID Symptoms:

- high temperature – this means you feel hot to touch on your chest or back (you do not need to measure your temperature)
- 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)
- 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

Kind regards

M. Stewart  
Headteacher