



Lavant

C.E. Primary School

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Dear parents and carers,

Sorry to bombard you with more COVID-19 information but I have been asked to share the following information with you from the DFE regarding changes in isolation periods and positive cases in the holidays.

Isolation Periods

It is important to note that the isolation periods have now changed, and contacts of confirmed cases (as well as those testing positive) now both need to isolate for ten days, instead of the 14 days it has previously been. This applies to those who started isolating before yesterday's date (14/12/20), when this comes into force.

The changes mean that day one of the ten day period starts the day **after** a person's test, or the development of symptoms, or their last exposure to a person who has tested positive if they are a contact. [Read the full government guidance here.](#)

6 Day Test and Trace during the Christmas Holidays

School leaders have been asked to remain on-call to conduct any contact tracing for 6 days after the final day of teaching.

Test and Trace.

- For the first 6 days after the end of term, if a pupil or staff member tests positive for coronavirus (COVID-19), having developed symptoms within 48 hours of being in school, the school will assist in identifying close contacts and advising self-isolation, as the individual may have been infectious whilst in school.
- If your child develops any symptoms over the weekend, or you receive a positive test result, you must email the school office office@lavant.w-sussex.sch.uk to notify us. We will then contact all people who have been in contact with the person. We are also required to contact you if a staff member develops symptoms or receives a positive test result.
- Where a pupil or staff member tests positive for coronavirus (COVID-19), having developed symptoms **more than 48 hours since being in school, the school should not be contacted**. Parents and carers should follow contact tracing instructions provided by NHS
- Where pupils are required to self-isolate due to contact with a positive case after the first 6 days following the end of term, schools do not need to be informed about their absence until the first day of the new term.

Public Health England guidance states that for most people, coronavirus (COVID-19) will be a mild illness.

If your child does develop symptoms, you can seek advice from the nhs.uk website at <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/check-if-you-have-coronavirus-symptoms/>. If you are concerned about your child's symptoms, or they are worsening you can seek advice from NHS 111 at <https://111.nhs.uk/> or by phoning 111.

The most common symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19) are recent onset of:

- a new continuous cough
- a high temperature
- a loss of, or change in, your normal sense of taste or smell (anosmia)

Please remember to:

- wash your hands with soap and water often – do this for at least 20 seconds
- use hand sanitiser gel if soap and water are not available
- wash your hands as soon as you get home
- cover your mouth and nose with a tissue or your sleeve (not your hands) when you cough or sneeze
- put used tissues in the bin immediately and wash your hands afterwards.

Further information is available at <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/>

Thank you so much for your support in this matter.

Best wishes,



Mr. Adrian King
Head Teacher.