

Newchurch Community Primary School  
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26<sup>th</sup> September 2023

Dear Parent/Carer,

Yesterday, we were alerted to three cases of COVID in school and a few children went home with high temperatures and feeling unwell.

Whilst the Department of Education states that COVID presents a low risk to children and young people and there are no specific rules relating to COVID in education settings, we have to ensure the health and safety of all our children (particularly our children with medical needs), staff and wider families.

As a school we have always followed the guidance given by the Department of Education and for those who weathered the pandemic with us, you will be aware that this stood us in good stead. The current guidance is:

*'For children and young people aged 18 and under who test positive for COVID-19, the advice is to try to stay at home and avoid contact with other people for three days. This is because children and young people tend to be infectious to other people for less time than adults.'*

*'Adults with a positive COVID-19 test result are advised to try to stay at home and avoid contact with other people for five days, which is when they are most infectious.'*

Please could we ask that you are vigilant for any symptoms of COVID and take reasonable precautions to keep all our Newchurch family safe. Here is a reminder of the symptoms to look out for:

- a high temperature or shivering (chills) – a high temperature 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
- a loss or change to your sense of smell or taste
- shortness of breath



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- feeling tired or exhausted
- an aching body
- a headache
- a sore throat
- a blocked or runny nose
- loss of appetite
- diarrhoea
- feeling sick or being sick

Of course, some of these symptoms are similar to the common cold and flu so if your child has mild symptoms such as a runny nose, sore throat or mild cough, and they feel well enough, they can come to school. You know your own child and trust that you are able to make an informed decision.

Whilst we are unable to control what goes on outside of school, in school staff have been informed that will be implementing our infection control measures in order to mitigate the spread of COVID and keep everyone safe.

Many thanks in anticipation of your valued and continued support in keeping all our Newchurch family safe and well.

Kindest regards,

*Jayne Narraway*

Headteacher



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