



# Thomas Russell Infants' School

*'Our children blossom through nurture & challenge'*

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Dear parents and carers

## **Advice for Child to Self-Isolate**

We have been advised that there has been a confirmed case of COVID-19 within the school. We have identified that your child has been in close contact with the affected case. We realise that this will create anxiety and stress for some families. Please be assured that we have followed our risk assessment and Covid19 reporting procedures and are working closely with both Public Health England and the Local Health Team at Staffordshire County Council.

In line with the national guidance, **we ask that your child now stays at home and self-isolates up to and including Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> December and returns to school on Wednesday 2nd December** (14 days after last contact). Your child must not go to school or any public areas: your child must remain at home. Further details of what your child needs to do are in NHS Guidance: <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/testingfor-coronavirus/nhs-test-and-trace-if-youve-been-in-contact-with-a-person-who-has-coronavirus/>

We are asking you to do this to reduce the further spread of COVID 19 to others in the community. If you need support with isolation, please contact your local Council. Other members of your household can continue normal activities provided your child does not develop symptoms within the self-isolation period. If your child is well at the end of the period of self-isolation, then they can return to usual activities. They do not need to get a test unless they develop symptoms.

## **What to do if your child develops symptoms of COVID 19**

For most people, especially children, COVID-19 will be a mild illness. The most common symptoms of COVID-19 are recent onset of:

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

If your child develops any of these symptoms of COVID-19, they should remain at home and arrangements should be made for them to be tested. At that time all other household members must also stay at home, not go to work, school or public areas, even for exercise.

Further information is available at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-stay-at-home-guidance/stay-at-home-guidance-for-households-with-possible-coronavirus-covid-19-infection>



Testing can be arranged by calling 119 or via the NHS website: [www.nhs.uk/coronavirus](http://www.nhs.uk/coronavirus) When the result of the child's test is known further advice will be available.

### **How to stop COVID-19 spreading**

There are things you can do to help reduce the risk of you and anyone you live with getting ill with COVID19:

- 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

We ask that you do not contribute to or partake in any social media speculation about this case or any other matters related to this. It can be particularly upsetting for the family involved and we want to ensure that our time and efforts are focused on keeping your children safe and well educated, whether that be in school or at home.

With the local and national picture changing frequently, we can assure you that the school is constantly reviewing its risk assessment, procedures and practice to keep our school community safe. The welfare of our children and staff is paramount at the moment and we will continue to deliver high quality learning experiences for everyone, even in these difficult times. We appreciate your support with remaining calm and measured in response to this situation.

### **Home learning**

Today's learning will be available shortly on Tapestry and we will be contacting you later today with further information about how teaching and learning will be delivered over the rest of the isolation period. This will be a package of blended learning including some live teaching sessions on Zoom and work posted on Tapestry for the children to access.

Please remember, we are still here for you and your children. Please do not hesitate to get in touch if you have any concerns or questions.

Kind regards

Mrs Burton and Mrs Farmer  
Co-Headteachers

