

New Hinksey C.E. Primary School Covid Newsletter for All Families 24.9.20

In the light of new national restrictions, updated DfE guidance and information from NHS Test and Trace, we have discussed and reviewed some procedures in school. We are sharing the following information and requests with you in the hope that you will all do everything you can to keep the school community safe and therefore, classes and the school open. **Please read carefully.**

When does my child need a test? Children should not come to school and should be booked in for a test if they have any of these three coronavirus symptoms:

1. **A high temperature:** any new high temperature **where you child feels hot to touch on their chest and back** (you do not need to measure the temperature).
2. **A new continuous cough:** coughing a lot **for more than an hour, or three or more coughing episodes in 24 hours.**
3. **A loss of, or change in, sense of smell or taste:** a noticeable loss of smell or taste or things that smell and taste different to normal.

A child does not need a test if they have a runny nose, sneezing or feeling unwell but without any of the above symptoms. **Only the person with symptoms should get a test** but all members of the household need to self-isolate whilst waiting for a test result. This means **brothers and sisters must not attend school and adult household members should stay at home whilst waiting for the test result.**

Tests can be booked at <https://www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test> or by phoning 119.

Keeping School Informed: If your child is not in school for any reason you MUST let us know why and what their ailments are. It is important that parents keep us updated on what is happening with tests and send us test result letters. Email office.3213@new-hinksey.oxon.sch.uk please with this information. **If a child receives a positive test result please phone us (01865 242169) at once** so that we can then follow procedures and advice from Public Health and the Department for Education on our next steps.

More Preventative Measures at Drop Off and Pick Up Time: One of the national measures 'Hands, Face, Space' advises staying 2 metres apart, and where this is not possible stay 1 metre apart **but with extra precautions.** This means wearing face masks or face visors. As there is limited space around our school gates, and from observing the proximity of parents to each other we are strongly encouraging the following:

- **Only 1 parent/carer/grandparent per family at drop off and pick up gates** please to avoid congestion. We know that this was a good time to socialise and mix pre covid, but current circumstances mean that these interactions with people outside of your household should be reduced.
- **Adults waiting outside the school at drop off and pick up are urged to wear a face covering** (mask, visor etc). Many local schools are asking this and have over 90% of parents wearing masks at these times. The few who are not have valid medical reasons or carer responsibilities that exempt them from having to wear a mask. Please help us minimise the risk of infection in the school community.
- Please **do not hang around the gate areas** but try to arrive and move away swiftly as soon as your drop off and collections are completed.
- School staff who need to speak to a parent at start or end of the day **will remain on the school site and speak through the railing**, away from the gate, so a distance can be maintained. They will wear a mask or visor at these times.

Reminder: Children should **not** bring toys, teddies, trading cards or games from home into school.

Advice: The UK Government recommends only essential travel including over the upcoming half term.