

Dear Parents and Carers

As you are aware, The Coleshill School has had cases of Coronavirus, with their close contacts being sent home to self-isolate. Public Health and the School are keen to make sure we are doing all we can to prevent any further cases. We are extending the opportunity for testing to any child who becomes unwell *for any reason* to test immediately.

We know that Coronavirus usually presents as cough, high temperature or a loss of, or change in, taste or smell. Anyone presenting with these symptoms is likely to have coronavirus. Other symptoms like sore throat, muscle aches and severe fatigue are more likely to be a seasonal cold, but some children with positive Coronavirus tests have only had these lesser symptoms.

Should any child become ill for any reason, then your child does not attend school until they have a negative test result. To do so you need to state to 119 or online that you have been **requested to test by Public Health**. The symptoms include:

- Fever or chills
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- Fatigue
- Muscle or body aches
- Headache
- Sore throat
- Congestion or runny nose
- Diarrhoea

We have attached an FAQ on how to book your test when you have these less common symptoms. This is a new option which will be used in schools. This will reduce both possible transmission and self-isolations of entire classes; which is great news for the school and local community.

This does not change the national guidance that, if you are unwell with a cough, high temperature or a loss or change in taste or smell, you and your household must self-isolate until there is a negative test result. If anyone tests positive they must isolate for 10 days and their household must isolate for 14 days from the first day of symptoms.

We understand that this new guidance may be inconvenient to you, but we believe it is necessary to ensure that we can maintain education provision for your child(ren). We want to keep you, your families, your school, as well as your local community safe. Please help us - if your child is unwell, keep them at home and book a test.

Kindest Regards

Liann Brookes-Smith  
Public health Warwickshire County Council