

Sebert Wood Primary School Covid Q & A - September 2021

National Guidance states that people who have been fully vaccinated and those under 18 no longer need to self-isolate if they are a contact of a positive case.

At Sebert Wood we have conducted our own risk assessments and Covid guidance should be followed to protect pupils, families, and staff. We hope to avoid any outbreaks and ask families to support us in this.

If my child has Covid symptoms, can they come to school?

No. They should remain at home. The child with symptoms should get a PCR test. If positive, they will need to self-isolate for a full 10 days. If negative and they are well, they can then return to school. If they have had a fever they should wait for 48 hours before returning to school.

If someone in the household tests positive, or my child is identified as a close contact, can they come to school?

You will be advised by Test and Trace what to do. It is likely you will be advised to arrange a PCR test for your child. If they do not have symptoms they can continue coming to school, but parents may prefer to keep the child off until the PCR test result comes back. Your child *will not* be marked as unauthorised if you choose to do this. If the test is negative, they can return to school if they have no symptoms.

If someone else in the household has symptoms, can my child come to school?

Yes, the child can continue to attend school if they have no symptoms. The person with symptoms should get a test and should self-isolate while they wait for the result.

If someone in the class has symptoms, what happens?

The child will be sent home and must get a PCR test and self-isolate while waiting for the results. The other children in the class will continue to attend school.

Does my child need to take regular lateral flow tests?

No, this is not a requirement for Primary schools, however, if families wish to do this then that is fine. We would encourage all adults to take regular (twice a week) lateral flow tests to help identify early onset of covid.

If someone in a class tests positive, what happens?

The family of the child should receive a call from Test and Trace instructing self-isolation for 10 days. Staff will be asked to identify any 'high risk contacts'; these are children who have had very close or prolonged close contact with the child who has tested positive. This is likely to be children who the positive case sits next to on a regular basis. These parents will be asked to take their children for a PCR test and these children should remain off school while waiting for the result. All other children in the class can continue to attend school. Parents in that class will be informed that there is a positive case and should remain vigilant to any developing symptoms for their child.

What happens if lots of children at school test positive?

If this happens, we will involve our local health protection team and they will advise us if any additional action is required, such as implementing elements of our outbreak management plan. This may include wider testing or targeted closures of certain groups or classes.

Will children be in bubbles?

No – children may return to bubbles should the local health protection team advise us to do so.

Will school let us know if there is a positive case?

We will only contact those directly affected by a positive case.

What happens if a staff member tests positive?

The staff member will self-isolate for 10 days. The children will either be taught by cover staff or supply teacher. If a class teacher is well enough, they may be able to support the class remotely.

If my child is self-isolating, will they get school work?

Yes. If they are well enough, we will expect them to complete and return work via Google Classroom and the year group emails. The office will inform the teachers but please note that because the teachers are teaching in class, the work may take until the next working day to set up.

If I am entitled to Free School Meals and my child is isolating will they receive them?

Yes, you will receive an alternative food parcel if you request it. Please contact the school but note that this cannot be organised until the next day.

If a parent has been a close contact and is not required to self-isolate (double vaccinated) can they still bring children to school?

Yes, but we would ask that you take some additional precautions. NHS suggest:

- Get a PCR test
- Wear a mask when attending school site
- Keep your distance from other families and staff
- Limit close contact with other people outside your household, especially in enclosed spaces
- Wear a face covering in enclosed spaces and where you are unable to maintain social distancing
- Limit contact with anyone who is clinically extremely vulnerable
- Take part in twice weekly LFT testing

This advice also applies while a person who tested positive with COVID is self-isolating.

In all circumstances – please keep school updated about any symptoms, close contacts, or positive cases.

If you have any other questions, please get in touch.