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## Schools and COVID-19 – Information for Parents

### ***1. Can I chat to other parents in the playground?***

Yes, but it is really important to stick to the 2m social distancing rule in the playground, as well as everywhere else. We know that it is really tempting to greet people you've not seen in a long time with a hug or kiss, or to join a chat with a group of parents, but COVID-19 is still with us. Even if you are wearing a mask, social distancing is essential.

### ***2. Will my children be doing PE?***

Yes, PE is really important for children, but lessons will be adapted to reduce risk of spread of COVID-19. You can make it much easier by checking when your child has PE lessons and making sure that they go to school in their PE kit on those days.

### ***3. Can children go to school with a cold?***

If a child does not have symptoms of COVID-19 but has other cold-like symptoms, such as a runny nose, they do not need to be tested and they and you do not need to self-isolate. Your child can go to school if fit to do so.

### ***4. Are children able to go to school if a parent or another sibling, or anyone else in their house has symptoms of COVID-19?***

If a child/parent/household member develops symptoms of COVID-19, **the entire household should immediately self-isolate, and book a test for the individual with the symptoms.** It is not necessary to test the entire household if they are not symptomatic.

The COVID-19 symptoms are:

- a new continuous cough
- a high temperature
- loss of or change to sense of smell or taste

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**5. Are children able to go to school if they have been in contact with someone who they don't live with but who has symptoms of COVID-19?**

If a child has been in "contact" with someone experiencing symptoms, they should carry on as normal until that individual receives their test result. If this is positive, the TTP Team will contact people identified as contacts.

Contact means:

- face-to-face contact with someone less than 1 metre away (including when you have worn a face covering or face mask)
- spending more than 15 minutes within 2 metres of someone
- travelling in a car with someone (even on a short journey)

**6. What happens if the school has a positive case for COVID-19?**

When a confirmed case of COVID-19 is identified as attending an educational or childcare setting (staff or pupil) contact will be made with the case (or parent) to assess whether they attended the school during their infectious period and whether further tracing of contacts in the school is needed. If any staff member or child within the school is a contact of the case, they will be required to self-isolate for 14 days and contacted by your local Test, Trace, Protect (TTP) team or Education Department. If a staff member or child from the school is not a contact of the case, they will not be required to self-isolate.

**7. Booking a COVID-19 test:**

Only people with symptoms (a new continuous cough, a high temperature, or loss of or change in the sense of taste or smell) should be tested.

A COVID-19 test can be arranged via the Portal, or by ringing 119.

Testing is available in person or with a home testing kit delivered to and collected from your home. The test is a throat swab or combined throat and nose swab.

Some people are having difficulties obtaining tests. Your TTP team may be able to help if you are having problems. 14.09.2020 Version 1: Produced by Public Health Wales Page 3 of 3

## **8. Self-isolation:**

Anyone with COVID-19 symptoms, and anyone who lives with them, must self-isolate, even if symptoms are mild.

You must not go to school, nursery, other childcare settings, work, or places like a GP surgery, pharmacy or hospital.

Anyone with symptoms must self-isolate for 10 days from when their symptoms started. They can return to school or work after 10 days if they are well enough to do so.

Anyone in the household who does not have symptoms must self-isolate for 14 days from when the first person in the home started having symptoms.

A test is only needed for people who are symptomatic. People who are not symptomatic should not have a test.

Receiving a negative test result when you are a contact of a case **does not** shorten the isolation period, you will still be required to isolate for 14 days if you are a confirmed contact of a positive case.

If a parent thinks their child has symptoms BUT chooses not to put them through a test all household members must remain in self-isolation for 14 days from the onset of symptoms.

If you receive a positive test result, you will be contacted by the TTP Team.

If the person who has symptoms has a negative test, self-isolation can end for everyone, children may return to school and parents can return to work if they are well enough and as long as nobody else in the household has developed symptoms.

## Appendix 7

### **An Overview For Parents if your Child becomes unwell with COVID 19 Symptoms.**

If you, your child or anyone you live with, begins to display **one** of the following symptoms you must all stay at home and follow advice from Public Health Wales:

- A new continuous cough
- A high temperature
- A loss of or change in your normal sense of taste or smell.

#### **Contact your child's school**

Ysgol Llannon -01269 841563

Ysgol bancffosfelen 01269 870272

E Mail: LangabeerM6@hwbcymru.net

Please note the following: Name and class of your child; Parent's contact details; Symptom Details and start date.

If your child becomes unwell during the school day, **displaying one of the COVID symptoms**, your child's headteacher will report this to the Test Trace Protect Team at Delta Wellbeing.

For all other illnesses they will contact you in the normal way.

If your child becomes unwell **outside of school hours, with any one of the COVID-19 symptoms** or needs to self-isolate, you need to report this to us **immediately** by calling Delta Wellbeing on 0300 333 2222 or by emailing [TTP@deltawellbeing.org.uk](mailto:TTP@deltawellbeing.org.uk) who will notify the school on your behalf.

Your Headteacher will advise you as parents/guardians, that if your child/parent/household member develops symptoms of COVID-19, the entire household should immediately self-isolate, and **book a test for the individual with the symptoms.**

#### **Booking a test:**

If a COVID-19 test is required, this should be arranged via the UK Booking Portal, <https://gov.wales/apply-coronavirus-test> or by ringing 119.

Please do not contact Delta Wellbeing to book a test.

**It is unnecessary to test the entire household. Only people displaying symptoms should book a test.**

**Let your headteacher know the result of the test immediately.**

If the headteacher contacts you to tell you that your child is displaying one of the COVID -19 symptoms you must collect them immediately from the school. You must also collect their brothers and sisters from any other school or setting.

If your child has symptoms but you choose not to test your child, you will be told to keep your child at home for a 10-day isolation period as the headteacher has an obligation to protect other pupils and staff at the school. Your child will be given work that they can complete from home.

They can return to school after 10 days if they are well enough to do so and are no longer displaying COVID 19 symptoms.

Household members must remain in self-isolation for 14 days from the start of symptoms

**Until the test results are known, EVERYONE living with the pupil will need to self-isolate.**

**Your child** will need to self-isolate for 10 days from when their symptoms started. They can return to school after 10 days if they are well enough to do so and are no longer displaying COVID 19 symptoms.

**Anyone in the household** who does not have symptoms must self-isolate for 14 days from when the first person in the home started having symptoms.

If the **test is negative**, self-isolation can end for everyone. Children should return to school and parents can return to work **if they are well enough to do so** and as long as nobody else in the household has developed symptoms.

If the **test is positive** you will be contacted by the Test, Trace, Protect Team who will advise you further.

Your child will need to self-isolate for 10 days or for longer if they are still symptomatic.

All members of your household will need to self-isolate for 14 days, from when your child first became unwell with COVID 19 symptoms. They will have to isolate for longer if they start to display COVID 19 symptoms themselves.

**If you or your child feels unwell and you need medical advice, please phone NHS 111 or visit their website <https://111.wales.nhs.uk/> or call your local GP.**

To prevent the spread of the virus it is important that we all:

- **maintain social distancing;**
- **catch and bin our coughs and sneezes;**
- **continue to wash our hands frequently;**
- **wear face coverings in public spaces or where we cannot be socially distant.**