

Larchwood Gardens Pilgrims Hatch Brentwood Essex CM15 9NG

Headteacher: Mr.S.Bowsher



T: 01277 372450 E: office@larchwood.essex.sch.uk W: www.LarchwoodPrimary.co.uk

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Dear Parents / Carers.

Today we have had our first confirmed COVID-19 case in school since Christmas and have had to shut one of the class bubbles in Year 4. I'm sure you are aware that we have lasted a lot longer than other schools without a case. The close contacts of the confirmed case have all been informed and are self-isolating. There is no action that you or your child need to take.

We know that you may find this concerning but we are continuing to monitor the situation. This letter is to inform you of the current situation and provide advice on how to support your child. Please be reassured that for most people, coronavirus (COVID-19) will be a mild illness.

What to do if your child develops symptoms of COVID 19

If your child develops symptoms of COVID-19, they must not come to school and should remain at home for at least **10 days** from the day after their symptoms appeared. Anyone with symptoms should seek a test and this can be arranged via https://www.nhs.uk/ask-for-a-coronavirus-test or by calling 119.

All other household members who remain well, must stay at home and not leave the house for 10 days. This includes anyone in your 'Support Bubble'.

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

The 10-day period starts from the day after the first person in the house became ill.

Household members should not go to work, school or public areas and exercise should be taken within the home only.

If you require help with buying groceries, other shopping or picking up medication, or walking a dog, you should ask friends or family. Alternatively, you can order your shopping online and medication by phone or online.

Household members staying at home for 10 days will greatly reduce the overall amount of infection the household could pass on to others in the community.

If you are able, move any vulnerable individuals (such as the elderly and those with underlying health conditions) out of your home, to stay with friends or family for the duration of the home isolation period.

Symptoms

The most common symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19) are recent onset of:

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



For most people, coronavirus (COVID-19) will be a mild illness.

If your child or anyone in the household does develop symptoms, you can seek advice from NHS 111 at https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/check-if-you-have-coronavirus-symptoms/ or by phoning 111.

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 COVID-19

Do

- 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

Further Information

Further information is available at https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/

Yours sincerely

Mr S Bowsher Headteacher