



Blackburn Central HIGH SCHOOL

**Blackburn Central
High School**
Haslingden Road
Blackburn BB2 3HJ
T 01254 505 700
E info@bchs.co.uk

Dear parent or carer,

Thank you for your ongoing support to keep our school community safe.

As you are aware, we have all worked hard during the pandemic to mitigate the risks within our setting. The pandemic is not over and with the emergence of the new, more transmissible Omicron variant we are seeing case numbers rise and therefore we all need to take extra steps to be careful and to manage and mitigate risks to keep our school community safe.

It is with this in mind that I need to make you aware that we have a confirmed positive case of coronavirus (COVID-19) at school.

I have identified that your child is likely to have mixed closely with an individual who has had a positive test result for coronavirus (COVID-19). In line with the new national guidance, close contacts do not need to self-isolate but are strongly advised to take lateral flow tests (LFTs) **before coming to school for 7 days** as a precautionary measure. This letter is to recommend that your child takes those tests **before attending school each day**. However, if your child has symptoms, you should book a free PCR test for them.

What is meant by “mixed closely”?

For early years, close mixing could include being in the same nursery class, being in a friendship group who often play together or be staff and children taking part in the same activity session together.

For older pupils, close mixing could be a class, form group or subject class, a friendship group mixing at break times, a sports team or a group in an after-school activity.

My child has recently had COVID-19 should they have a test?

In line with the new guidance any child age 5yr -18 yrs 6 months who is a close contact of a positive case is strongly advised to take a **lateral flow test each day for 7 days** even if this is within 90 days of a positive Covid test result. Lateral flow tests are unlikely to return a positive result once self-isolation has been completed.

They should **not have a PCR test** if they have previously received a positive PCR test result in the last 90 days **unless they develop any new symptoms of COVID-19**. This is because it is possible for PCR tests to remain positive for some time after COVID-19 infection.

Can my child attend school whilst awaiting test results?

If the lateral flow result is negative and your child is well they can attend school. If the result is positive then they should stay off school and book a confirmatory PCR test within 2 days.

Aspire and achieve

Where can I get Lateral Flow Tests (LFTs)

Lateral flow tests can be ordered online [Order coronavirus \(COVID-19\) rapid lateral flow tests - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#) or picked up for free from most local pharmacies.

Where can I get a PCR test?

Home PCR testing kits are available by calling 119 or there are further details of local test sites on the Council website [Test, trace, self-isolate | Blackburn with Darwen Borough Council](#)

What happens if the test is positive?

If the test returns a positive result you must let us know immediately and follow the national [stay at home guidance](#). [Please note that if your child did not have symptoms when they received their positive PCR test result](#), and they subsequently develop COVID-19 symptoms within their isolation period, they will need to start a new 10-day isolation period by counting 10 full days from the day following their symptom onset.

Yours sincerely,



Mrs S Hussain
Headteacher