



Blackburn Central HIGH SCHOOL

**Blackburn Central
High School**
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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. Nationally cases are currently rising, as are hospitalisations. Cases, hospitalisations and, sadly, deaths, will rise further as society and the economy reopen. Blackburn with Darwen is in an enduring transmission area, and therefore we all need 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 Blackburn Central High School.

I have identified that your child is likely to have mixed closely with the individual who has had a positive test result for coronavirus (COVID-19). In line with the national guidance, potential close contacts are advised to take a Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR) test as a precautionary measure. This letter is to recommend that your child takes a PCR test and that this is done as soon as possible within the next two days. To avoid any disruption in school it would be very helpful if you could arrange for the test to be completed outside of core school hours. This request is of course entirely voluntary, however I do hope that you can appreciate the reason for this.

If your child does not have symptoms, you can still book a free PCR test for them as this is a request from Blackburn with Darwen Borough Council with the approval of the Director for Public Health. If you have difficulty booking a PCR test using the 119 telephone service, please inform the call handler you wish to book the test on the advice of your local council.

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?

No, 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 waiting for the result of the PCR test?

Yes, your child should attend school as normal unless they develop COVID-19 symptoms.

Aspire and achieve

Where can I get a PCR test?

- Permanent testing site at Old Bank Lane, outside the Royal Blackburn Hospital
- Penny Street car park, Blackburn
- Railway Road car park, Darwen

Register and [book online](#) or call 119.

If you'd prefer to walk-in, you can do so at:

- Railway Road car park, Darwen (8am-8pm)
- Penny Street car park, Blackburn (8am-8pm)

Please note, the walk-in site formerly at Blackburn College car park has now closed.

Free parking is available at Penny Street Car Park, Blackburn and in Darwen on Knott Street, Atlas Road or Darwen Market Roof Top.

Two mobile testing units for walk-in tests are also available:

- Ewood Park Darwen End Coach Car Park: 18th and 19th and 26th September
- Pleasington Playing Fields: 20th to 24th and 27th to 30th September

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](#)

Yours sincerely



Mrs S Hussain
Headteacher