

General letter to all students/parents/guardians

Advice to All Parents

Dear Parents,

We have been notified that there have been confirmed cases of COVID-19 at Gig Mill Primary School.

We know that you may find this concerning, but we are continuing to monitor the situation and are working closely with the local Public Health team. 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.

Any children and staff who have been in close contact with the individual who has tested positive for coronavirus (COVID-19), have received a letter asking them to stay at home for 10 full days.

The school remains open and your child should continue to attend as normal if they remain well.

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 full days, with day one being the day after their symptoms appeared. The main symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19) are a new, continuous cough, or a high temperature, or a loss of, or change in, their normal sense of taste or smell (anosmia). Anyone with symptoms will be eligible for testing and this can be arranged via <https://www.nhs.uk/ask-for-a-coronavirus-test> or by calling 119.

All other household members must stay at home and not leave the house for 10 full days. This includes anyone in your 'Support Bubble'. The 10-day period starts from when the first person in the house became ill, with day one being the day after their symptoms appeared. Household members should not go to work, school or public areas and exercise should be taken within the home.

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.

Further information is available at:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-stay-at-home-guidance/stay-at-home-guidance-for-households-with-possible-coronavirus-covid-19-infection>

In addition to the main Covid-19 symptoms, if your child develops any of the following symptoms, it is recommended they also arrange a PCR test: loss of appetite, sore throat, extreme tiredness, sneezing, headache, diarrhoea, joint or muscle ache, vomiting, nausea, rash, runny nose or congestion. This is because these other symptoms have also been linked to Covid-19 infection. For more information please visit www.dudley.gov.uk/council-community/emergencies/coronavirus/coronavirus-testing.

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If your child does develop symptoms, you can seek advice from the nhs.uk website at <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/check-if-you-have-coronavirus-symptoms/>. If you are concerned about your child's symptoms, or they are worsening you can seek advice from NHS 111 at <https://111.nhs.uk/> 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
- when mixing with people indoors, keep rooms well ventilated

Further Information

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

Yours sincerely

Angela Hannaway
Headteacher