

Parents FAQs re Covid

What happens if my child shows any of the symptoms for COVID-19?

Keep them at home! If your child shows any of the symptoms: fever, continuous cough, loss of taste or smell, then you should keep them at home and contact 111 for advice and book a test immediately. Please inform the school that your child is not attending and that you are awaiting test results.

You should follow Public Health England advice on self-isolation.

If my child has been off school with COVID-19 symptoms, when do they return to school?

Once you have received the test results you will be informed by Public Health England about the length of time your child should isolate. Your child cannot return to school until they receive the test results and the self-isolation period as finished. You must send a copy of the test results to school.

If someone in our family tests positive. Can I send my child to school?

No. Your child must self-isolate if they are living with someone who has tested positive for COVID-19 in your family home.

What happens if my child develops symptoms at school?

We will assess your child's symptoms. If they are COVID-19 related, we will call you ASAP to collect your child. We will insist that your child takes a test and informs the school immediately.

What work can my child complete while they are self-isolating?

If your child is well enough to complete work, they can access the remote learning scheme of work on Microsoft TEAMS and any homework on ShowMyHomework. The guide for accessing work via Microsoft TEAMS is on the school website in Parents – Latest News/Letters Home – Covid-19, or you can copy and paste the link below:

<https://www.stthomasmoreschool.org.uk/attachments/download.asp?file=243&type=pdf>

What happens if a pupil in the school tests positive?

The school will follow Public Health England advice. The current advice is to identify all pupils who have had **direct** contact with the child who is positive and send them home. Parents of the pupils involved will be informed immediately. The advice at the moment is to **NOT** send whole year groups home, **only those who have had direct contact**.

What happens if someone in the family (in the same house) has symptoms - should I let my child go to school?

You must follow Public Health England (Test and Trace) advice. If someone is showing symptoms and they have been required to have a test then your child should stay at home until a test result has been returned.

My family has someone who is very vulnerable. What is the school doing to ensure that year bubbles don't mix (a) before school (b) during school (c) after school?

Pupils are encouraged to avoid public transport and walk or cycle to school. Once in school they are directed to their year group area. The school has put measures in place for pupils to remain in their year group bubbles, however, there are times when year group bubbles will cross over. In this instance social distancing measures are put in place.

My family has someone who is very vulnerable, can I keep my child at home?

No. The only time a child can stay at home is if they have a shielding letter from their GP or they are self-isolating. All pupils should be in school.

Can I keep my child off school because another pupil has tested positive, even if they aren't in the same year group?

No. You will be informed if your child has been in direct contact with a child who has tested positive.

Why don't you send all the year group home if one pupil tests positive?

Public Health England advice has been very clear. Only pupils or staff who have had direct contact will be required to self-isolate.

Why don't you tell all parents when there is a positive test among pupils?

When someone tests positive in the school it can be a very sensitive issue. We want all pupils to feel re-assured that the school is a safe environment to be in. We continually remind pupils on the importance of social distancing and hand sanitising. We inform the pupils and staff who have had direct contact immediately.

Please rest assured that we are doing all we can to ensure the safety of your child and our staff, and to ensure that your child can continue their education in school. We are following government guidelines on covid-19 prevention measures, have risk assessments in place, and always consult Public Health England to ensure we get up-to-date advice in the event of a positive test for a pupil or staff member.