

Dear parent/carer

As Covid-19 restrictions ease this week, I'd like to reassure you that Salford schools continue to follow public health guidelines and regularly review their risk assessments to keep children and staff safe and well. Thank you for your continued support in getting our rates down and following the guidelines to keep schools open. This is a quick reminder of what you need to know.

If you or your child has a cough, temperature or change/loss in taste or smell

- Book a PCR test via www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test or call 119.
- The child should not come into school – everyone in the household needs to self-isolate until the test result is known.
- If the result is positive, all household members must self-isolate for 10 days.

If you or your child feels unwell, but doesn't have any of the symptoms above

- Book a PCR test for the person who is unwell via www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test or call 119. When booking, choose the option "*My local council has asked me to get a test*". New variants of the virus have a range of symptoms, so a PCR test is the best way to rule out coronavirus.
- They do not need to self-isolate while they are waiting for the result.
- If the result is positive, all household members must self-isolate for 10 days.

Lateral flow / rapid tests should only be used when there are no symptoms at all

- Please continue to do these twice a week when you are feeling well and have no symptoms.
- Order more at www.gov.uk/order-coronavirus-rapid-lateral-flow-tests or collect them from pharmacies, libraries in Gateways/Broughton Hub or leisure centres.

If you or your child is a contact of someone who has tested positive

- The person who is a contact must self-isolate for 10 days from the last contact with the case.
- It does not matter whether they have a test or they test negative, they must still self-isolate.
- If your child has been sent home from school as a contact, they must not leave the house or garden or see friends during this period. This will stop other people getting the infection.

If you are a carer or looking after someone with a long-term health condition or disability

- You should take up the offer of the **COVID vaccine** as a priority.
- You can book with your GP or on the national system <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/coronavirus-vaccination/book-coronavirus-vaccination/>
- All COVID-19 vaccines require two doses. Always take up the second dose for the best protection.

You should continue to follow all the infection control precautions even if you have been vaccinated. We all have to continue to play our part so that we can keep our school communities safe and well.

Yours faithfully



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Director of Public Health



Charlotte Ramsden OBE
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