

The Coppice Primary School

Shawhurst Lane, Wythall,
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Headteacher:
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Covid-19 Update

Dear Parents/Carers,

Unfortunately, we have had a few positive Covid cases in school, as parents will now be aware of (nine cases in total - children/staff out of 780 during the whole pandemic: so far a 1.2% infection rate compared with 2% nationally). During the first wave, even accounting for less children in school, we saw little of it, but with our close neighbours Birmingham and Solihull experiencing high rates of infection, it is hardly surprising that in this second wave we are seeing more of it. We have taken our responsibilities around our risk assessment seriously; recently, even having a remote meeting with the local authority to double check our procedures (and all was considered good). In addition, we continue to impress upon parents and carers on site that they need to wear a mask and observe social distancing.

To help prevent infection coming into school, parents are advised to be mindful of the updated symptoms list which we have now been issued from the Government. Please see this below. **If any child in the household is experiencing any sudden onset of the below symptoms, then they are advised to take a test. No child should be coming into school if they are exhibiting any of these symptoms.** Of course, if they are tested and the test proves negative then they can return. If your child/someone else within their household is taking a test, or there is a positive result, then parents should inform school ASAP.

Updated symptoms list from the Government:

Loss of appetite, diarrhoea, nausea, vomiting, extreme tiredness, headache, joint pain, muscle ache, runny nose, sore throat, sneezing, 'altered consciousness'.

The three *main* Covid symptoms most commonly experienced remain as: high temperature, a new continuous cough and/or a loss or change to your sense of smell or taste.

Regarding 'isolating' children coming onto the school site at pick-up and drop-off with parents to collect or drop off siblings; wherever possible, isolating children must stay at home and parents should make arrangements for this to happen (e.g. ask a friend to pick-up or drop-off the sibling). If after trying, no such arrangement can be made, then parents of isolating children need to make arrangements with associated teachers (via email) to pick up *marginally* later (when all other parents/children have pretty much gone) and ensure the affected, isolating, child wears a mask on site and keeps a good distance. Morning drop off is hopefully a little



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easier to manage. We therefore insist that drop off times remain the same as usual. If you do need to bring an isolating sibling with you, you must keep a good distance and ensure the child is 'masked' please.

Mr Heptinstall



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