

25/03/2022

Dear Parents/guardians,

We are writing to inform you that Rowhill School still has a significant amount of COVID-19 cases in the Secondary and Primary phases of the school. The school has made the decision to close classes next week. As from Monday 28th March each class will be in school for 4 days rather than 5 (See information below) ACP parents will be contacted by Sarah Tyler (Head of ACP) to discuss the changes to their timetables. This is not a decision I have taken lightly as I am aware of the importance of pupils being in school. However, with staffing levels still being reduced by over 30% I have made this decision based on safe operating procedures and health and safety of pupils and staff. I am hoping this control measure will help break this transmission cycle and allow staffing levels to be safe and pupils to return to school on a full-time basis as soon as possible. The situation will be reviewed on Tuesday 19th April and will be fed back to all parents and carers on the same day.

Class Closures for Week beginning 28th March 2022

Monday	28-3-22	Eagles, T1 and V2
Tuesday	29-3-22	Pythons, T2 and V1
Wednesday	30-3-22	Elephants, T6 and V3
Thursday	31-3-22	Sharks, T5 and T3
Friday	01-4-22	Scorpions and T4

We know that you may find Covid-19 being in the school concerning, but we are continuing to monitor the situation and are working closely with the UK Health Security Agency. 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 children, coronavirus (COVID-19) will be a mild illness.

All students and staff, regardless of year group, should remain vigilant regarding COVID-19. All parents are advised to continue with the routine of twice weekly asymptomatic LFD COVID-19 testing of those in Year 7 and above in the household. The school has a good supply of these tests and pupils will be given LFD test kits so they are able to regularly test and reduce the risk of transmitting the virus if they are positive.

What to do if your child develops symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19) or tests positive for COVID-19

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). If your child develops symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19), they should get a PCR test via [Get a free PCR test to check if you have coronavirus \(COVID-19\) - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#) or by calling 119 and remain at home at least until the result is known. If negative, the child can end self-isolation; if positive, the child should isolate until at least 10 days after their symptoms appeared. However, people self-isolating with COVID-19 will have the option to reduce their isolation period after 5 full days if they test negative on both day 5 and day 6 and do not have a temperature, individuals who are still positive on their rapid lateral flow tests must stay in isolation until they have had 2 consecutive negative tests on two consecutive days. Once they are able to do this

pupils and staff can return to school. If this is not possible they can return to their normal routine and stop self-isolating after 10 full days if their symptoms have gone, or if the only symptoms you have are a cough or anosmia, which can last for several weeks. If they still have a high temperature after 10 days or are otherwise unwell, stay at home and seek medical advice.

For most people, coronavirus (COVID-19) will be a mild illness.

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.

Everyone aged 12 and over, and some children aged 5 to 11, can get a 1st and 2nd dose of the COVID-19 vaccine. People aged 16 and over, and some children aged 12 to 15, can also get a booster dose. People aged 12 and over who had a severely weakened immune system when they had their first 2 doses, will be offered a 3rd dose and a booster (4th dose).

How to stop coronavirus (COVID-19) spreading

There are things you can do to help reduce the risk of you and anyone you live with getting ill with coronavirus (COVID-19): [guidance on how to stay safe and help prevent the spread](#)

- get vaccinated – everyone aged 18 and over can [book COVID-19 vaccination appointments](#) now. Those aged 16 and 17 will be invited to book an appointment: [Who can get the coronavirus \(COVID-19\) vaccine - NHS \(www.nhs.uk\)](#). [Those who are aged 12-15 who are themselves clinically extremely vulnerable or live with someone who is clinically extremely vulnerable or meet JCVI recommendations \(JCVI statement\) are also eligible.](#)
- wash your hands with soap and water or use hand sanitiser regularly throughout the day
- 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
- meet people outside and avoid crowded areas
- open doors and windows to let in fresh air if meeting people inside
- wear a face covering when it's hard to stay away from other people – particularly indoors or in crowded places
- participate in twice weekly LFD testing following national guidelines (recommended for 11 years and over). We encourage you to log your results here: <https://www.gov.uk/log-test-site-covid19-results>

Further Information

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

Yours sincerely



Mr G Bartrum
Headteacher
Rowhill School