

Headteacher
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Dear Parents and carers,

In light of the situation which occurred this week, we felt it was important to clarify our protocols for bubble closures moving forward. Please read carefully the protocols that we will be following at Westfield. We have carefully considered the government and county guidance as well as what sits most comfortably with us in protecting our staff and families.

If a CHILD in a bubble has symptoms...

If your child has symptoms of coronavirus, as detailed below, they **cannot** attend school and must self-isolate for 7 days. Everyone else in your household must self-isolate for 14 days. For guidance about how long to self-isolate for, please follow this link: [How long to self isolate for](#)

Symptoms:

- High temperature (37.8 degrees or above)
- New continuous cough (this means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours. If you usually have a cough, it may be worse than usual)
- Loss or change to your sense of smell or taste (this means you've noticed you cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal)

When a child or adult in the bubble develops COVID-19 symptoms, we will inform the parents in that bubble as soon as possible and **the bubble will be shut down**. Everyone in the bubble will have to self-isolate for 14 days, or until the child/adult with symptoms tests negative for COVID-19. **For that reason, we are asking that children exhibiting COVID-19 symptoms should have a test done as soon as possible.** For details on how to arrange a test, please follow this link: [Getting a coronavirus test](#)

If the child tests positive, we will inform parents, to confirm that all of the children and staff in the bubble will need to remain self-isolated for 14 days. N.B. You cannot have your child tested for COVID-19 **unless** they have symptoms.

If SOMEONE ELSE in your household has symptoms...

If someone else in your household is exhibiting possible COVID-19 symptoms, your child cannot attend school for 14 days, or until that person receives a negative test result. Again, we would encourage you to get the person with symptoms tested without delay - the test needs to be done in the first 5 days of having symptoms.

In this instance, we will inform the parents of children in the bubble that a child is self-isolating, but **we will not shut down the bubble, unless the child in the bubble develops symptoms and/or tests positive.**

Please see the extract below from the Stay at home guidance: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-stay-at-home-guidance/stay-at-home-guidance-for-households-with-possible-coronavirus-covid-19-infection>

If you develop symptoms you may wish to alert the people that you have had close contact with over the last 48 hours to let them know that you might have coronavirus (COVID-19) but are waiting for a test result. At this stage, those people should not self-isolate. Alerting those that you have been in contact with means they can take extra care in practising social distancing and good hand and respiratory hygiene. They can also be more alert to any symptoms they might develop.

If the child who lives with someone who is self-isolating subsequently develops symptoms within 2 days of last attending school, we will inform the other families in the bubble and shut it down, for 14 days, or until the child tests negative.

If you are contacted by the NHS Test and Trace Service

If you are told by the NHS Test and Trace Service that your child has been in contact with someone who has COVID-19, they must self-isolate for 14 days. **Their bubble will not be shut down.** [Guidance for contacts of people with possible or confirmed coronavirus](#)

If a parent or other member of the household is told they have been in contact with someone with COVID-19, they should try to avoid contact with anyone that they live with as much as possible. The child will still be able to attend school, so long as they can avoid contact with the person who has been contacted by Test and Trace. For more details please follow this link: [Test and Trace Service](#)

We appreciate this is a lot of information to digest. Please see attached a more concise grid, which provides an overview of the actions to be taken.

Thank you for your continued support.

Kind regards,



Suzanne Stace

Headteacher