

Now that we have returned to school and things settle down there we want to work closely with you to ensure that we contain and properly manage any risks posed by Covid -19. A Covid outbreak within the school community could involve shutting down some or all of our class or year groups. We hope to avoid this eventuality, as pupils have been out of school for an extended period of time and so we must do everything we can to avoid this happening.

This bulletin is designed to alert parents to any updates and to reinforce messages about actions we should all be taking. It will be updated regularly.

Current status:

Slough has now been removed from the concern list as infection rates have fallen (increasing slightly again now).

There have been no cases amongst the immediate school community.

Updates on symptoms and what to do

There is a lot of guidance around symptoms and what to do in different contexts and it can be confusing sometimes to know what to do.

The attached extract is from guidance for schools, which was updated on Friday. It does cover most scenarios so is a useful document to refer to if you are unsure

Basically you and members of your household should self-isolate for at least 10 days you have symptoms: high temperature, new, persistent cough, loss of smell or taste. To give a bit more detail NHS advises:

The main symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19) are:

a high temperature – this means you feel hot to touch on your chest or back (you do not need to measure your temperature)

a 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)

a 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

Anyone with symptoms should get a test.

...And just to reassure you there were just 19 cases per 100,000 population in Slough last week, the average for England was 70. Bolton (the highest) had 168.

New:

Please see the most recent version of the risk assessment on our website. Children and staff can still come to school with a cold **IF** there are no covid symptoms but we must exercise caution and consider carefully the symptoms guidance on this page.

Montem is now open for online bookings but you have to be patient and keep trying – and don't forget your phone with your QR code on it!

Main messages

When we are informed of a positive test result in our school within the last 14 days we have to contact the public health England protection team. We will be asked to provide information about their close contacts.

Close contact means:

- *Direct close contact - face-to-face contact with an infected person for any length of time, within 1 metre, including:*
 - o *Being coughed on*
 - o *A face-to-face conversation, or*
 - o *Unprotected physical contact (skin-to-skin)*
- *Proximity contacts - extended close contact (within 1 to 2 metres for more than 15 minutes) with an infected person*
- *Travelling in a small car with an infected person*

It is really important that we try and limit close contact as much as possible by maintaining a social distance of at least one metre. This is difficult with the children and they not expected to always be distanced from each other in their bubbles but it is easier with adults so it is a good habit to get into:

- Talk to each other without getting too close
- Meet with social distancing in mind
- Avoid hugs and touches
- Remind each other with a 'social distancing' mantra
- Stick to the allotted entry and exit times when dropping off and picking children up from school and please move quickly on the playground.