



Joanna Robertson
Headteacher

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Date: 2 November 2021

Dear Parent / Carer,

As you will be aware there have been some positive covid cases confirmed both within the school and out with in the local community. Therefore, in order to keep numbers down in the school and local community, can I please ask that you adhere to the following government guidance.

Cold/Flu Symptoms

It is important to remind families that at this time of year, whilst many children may be experiencing symptoms related to the common cold/flu, it is paramount for the safety of our school, nursery and wider community that any symptoms presented by your child that are Covid related (even if mild), are checked **via PCR** as a precautionary measure.

The main three symptoms are:

- A Persistent Cough**
- A High temperature**
- Loss/change to taste/smell.**

During this time, your child (along with any siblings) should not attend school.

All household members should isolate temporarily, until the **PCR** result has been returned.

For nursery and a small proportion of our P1s, children **under** the age of 5 do not require to isolate unless they are the ones with the symptoms/positive test.

If your child's result is negative, they can return to school only if they are well enough to do so.

If your child's result is positive, please follow national guidance and any instructions given to you when acknowledging the positive test.

If another member of your child's household displays any of the 3 symptoms noted above, **please do not send your child to school** until the family member has been PCR tested and you have followed all national guidelines thereafter.

We ask that parents take the above symptoms seriously and do not presume it is the cold/flu and continue to send their child(ren) to school or nursery.

LFD/PCR Tests

We would like to remind families that if your child, or a member of their household shows any Covid-19 related symptoms that a PCR test should be carried out.

We are aware that Lateral Flow Device tests (LFD's) are widely available and are a convenient way for families to carry out a quick test, however these **should not be used** as an alternative to PCR testing.

PCR testing should be used for anyone **showing symptoms or who have been identified as a close contact**. **LFD** testing should be used for regular testing /**asymptomatic testing only**.

If your child has tested positive (**Including via a LFD test**), please advise the school/nursery asap by telephone / email:

Ratray 01250 871980 or ratray@pkc.gov.uk
Nursery 01250 8719781

Please ensure you record any LFD positive results on the government website, per instruction booklet.

Symptoms-No PCR Test

If your child has Covid-19 related symptoms, shares a household with someone showing symptoms or has been identified as a close contact to a positive case and you do not wish to have them PCR tested, your child and any siblings would be unable to attend school/nursery for 10 days (unless they are under 5 years old).

Close Contact-Test & Protect

If your child has been identified as a close contact to a positive Covid-19 case, please arrange for them to be collected from school straight away and a PCR test carried out.

During this time siblings can remain at school, assuming they themselves were not a contact and your child is showing no Covid related symptoms.

If a parent, carer or another member of your child's household is contact traced and is showing no symptoms, your child can continue to come to school as normal.

For full information, please go to www.nhsinform.scot or www.gov.uk/coronavirus.

Sickness/Absence Reporting

We would like to remind parents of some very important information regarding their child's absence from school or nursery. If your child is absent, we ask that families report this prior to **9.30am** on the morning of their absence, to the phone numbers below

Ratray 01250 871980
Nursery 01250 8719781

These lines are available 24hrs a day with a voicemail service.

For school children, please do not message teachers directly via Teams or Glow email to report an absence, this must be reported via the school line in the first instance.

If your child is absent for more than one day, we require that you regularly update the office. If you know they will be absent for several days, please state the return date in your message. If you are unsure if they will be off for only one day or a few days, please update us each morning.

It is important that the reason for absence is detailed in your message, with full details provided. If your child is 'unwell', we require to know the ailment or symptoms presented.

If your child has experienced any sickness or diarrhoea, please do not send them back to school or nursery for at least 48 hours after their symptoms have subsided.

Yours sincerely



Headteacher
Ratray Primary School and Early Childhood Centre