



Learning for Life!

Headteacher: **Ms Annemari Ottridge** M.Ed. NPQH NPQEL

Dear Parents and Carers

In the light of recent government announcements related to the coronavirus outbreak, we are writing to you to bring you up to date with how we continue to keep everyone safe at Lonsdale School.

The main symptoms of the coronavirus are:

- a new continuous cough
- high temperature
- loss of, or change in, your normal sense of taste or smell (anosmia).

If anyone in your household is showing any of these symptoms, your child should not attend school.

You can read about the latest measures at:

<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 anyone who lives in your household develops:

- a new continuous cough
- high temperature
- loss of, or change in, your normal sense of taste or smell (anosmia)

the government has stated that all household members must stay at home, self-isolate and arrange a Covid-19 test.

Family member with symptoms must stay at home for 10 days from the start of symptoms or until the Covid-19 test comes back negative.

All other family members living in the household must stay at home for 14 days from the start of the symptoms or until the symptomatic person's test comes back negative.

If anyone in your household is symptomatic please remain at home, follow the government guidance and contact the school via our absence email address only absence@lonsdale.herts.sch.uk stating clearly the first day when the person displayed symptoms.

If your child develops any of the above symptoms at school, we will telephone you and ask you to collect your child from school immediately.

You will be advised to follow government guidance on self-isolation and testing and your child must remain at home for the duration of the isolation process or until a negative test is received.

Any child developing symptoms at school will be asked to remain in a designated isolation room, supported and supervised by senior staff wearing enhanced PPE, until you arrive to collect them.

If a further member of your household develops symptoms during their period of isolation at home, your child must stay off school for 7 days after the symptoms first appear.

Lonsdale School, Brittain Way, Stevenage, Hertfordshire, SG2 8UT
Telephone: 01438 726999, email: admin@lonsdale.herts.sch.uk
www.lonsdale.herts.sch.uk

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This means, for example, that a child may be at home because their sibling developed symptoms but who does not develop symptoms until the twelfth day of their isolation. They would have to stay at home for a further 7 days meaning that their total isolation period would be 19 days.

If you require any advice about how long to isolate your child for, please contact either Annemari Ottridge, Headteacher or Anne Smart, Head of Support and Student Care and we will discuss it with you.

Your child can only return to school once we have sight of a negative Covid-19 test result notification from you or completion of the Covid-19 self-isolation period.

You can send the test result via email at absence@lonsdale.herts.sch.uk and you will receive a contact via telephone from senior staff named above.

These are unprecedented times, and we must all do everything in our power to protect all members of our school community who are most vulnerable to the virus.

We understand that autumn time brings seasonal colds and other illnesses which will spread across our school community. Therefore, it is important that you only send your child to school when well.

This will inevitably cause great inconvenience to some of our families, but please be aware that we are following government guidelines closely.

In the meantime, for the vast majority of pupils who are able to continue to attend school, please be assured that we are being extra vigilant in the way that we clean the school premises and encourage pupils and staff to maintain the highest levels of hygiene as per our policies, procedures and risk assessments previously shared with you.

If you have any concerns about your child's welfare and safety in school, please contact us and we will answer any question that you may have.

May we thank you again for your support and co-operation during these unprecedented times.

Yours Sincerely

Annemari Ottridge
Headteacher

Anne Smart
Head of Support and Student Care

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