



Principal: A. GOURLEY BMus (Hons) PGCE DASE PQH (NI)
182A Connsbrook Avenue, Belfast, Co. Antrim BT4 1JY Telephone: 02890 471274

8 December 2021.

COVID TESTING.

Dear Parent/Guardian,

Over the past week or two, we have seen a number of positive cases again being recorded in some classes, mainly the upper end of the school. Our numbers have stayed relatively low thanks to your attention in picking up symptoms quickly and isolating your child where there's been a positive case in the household.

It is difficult to assess which symptoms are Covid and which are common childhood illnesses as both are so alike and Covid can present in other unexpected ways, including starting off as a tummy bug.

If your child is in a class where positive cases have already been identified, they are therefore a close contact and, if any symptoms whatsoever appear, they should be treated initially as Covid and a PCR test booked. If any symptoms appear in class, we will ask you to collect your child and book a PCR.

If your child displays symptoms.

- If your child displays symptoms, they must be kept at home and a PCR test is booked.
- If they are negative they may return to school. If positive, they must isolate for 10 days at home.
- You should advise the school if your child has tested positive.

If someone in your household tests positive.

- If someone in your household tests positive, **everyone** in the household should book a PCR test as soon as possible and again on the 8th day after their exposure. Anyone who tests positive should then isolate for 10 days.
- Children aged 5-17 who are not vaccinated should isolate at home until they get their results.
They should not be sent to school.
- If the result is negative they can come out of isolation and return to school. However, please note the PHA advice:
They should continue to do a lateral flow test before going to school each day immediately following their negative PCR test result up until receipt of a negative day 8 PCR test result.

Your support is very much appreciated and I am aware of the extra care you are taking, even above the current advice, which will hopefully see us all safely through to the end of term and allow a healthy Christmas with our families.

Mrs. A. Gourley
Principal.

EDUCATION AUTHORITY – BELFAST REGION

