



Our Ref	Covid
If you telephone please ask for	Public Health Team 0151 511 5200
Your ref	
Date	12 January 2022
E-mail address	public.health@halton.gov.uk

Dear Parent/Carer,

COVID-19 – Warn and Inform

You have been given this letter as someone in the school/setting has tested positive for COVID-19. Therefore, we are asking you to be extra careful and monitor your child and your family's health, looking out for any new symptoms. You may also be contacted by NHS Test and Trace, the Halton public health team or school to inform you that your child is a close contact of the case.

The following applies to anyone who has been identified as a close contact of a case (see overleaf for information for those who test positive for COVID-19):

- Adults (aged 18 and 6 months or older) who have **not** had two doses of the vaccine **must** self-isolate for 10 days
- However, other close contacts are **strongly advised to take a lateral flow (LFD) test every day for 7 days** and continue to attend their setting as normal, unless they have symptoms or a positive test result. This daily testing of close contacts applies to:
 - All adults who are fully vaccinated (2 jabs and over 2 weeks since 2nd jab)
 - All children aged 5 – 18 years and 6 months.
 - People who can prove they are unable to be vaccinated for clinical reasons
 - People taking part in an approved clinical trial for a COVID-19 vaccine
 - Children under the age of 5 don't need to self-isolate or daily test

Please also ensure that you and your family (*except* primary school-aged children) are doing twice-weekly asymptomatic home LFD testing. This will support the school and the local community, by helping to find cases and to stop spread.

If necessary, following advice from the Halton Public Health Team, the school/setting may introduce additional measures to control the spread of COVID-19.

What to do if your child develops any COVID-19 symptoms

If your child develops any of the main symptoms of COVID-19 please get them tested (a PCR test) as soon as possible. The main symptoms of COVID-19 are:

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Public Health

Runcorn Town Hall, Heath Road, Runcorn WA7 5TD
Tel: 0303 333 4300
www.halton.gov.uk

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

Testing can be arranged via <https://www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test> or by calling 119.

What to do if you or your child test positive for COVID-19

Information on what you should do if you or your child test positive for COVID-19 (either following a lateral flow test or a PCR test), can be found on the NHS website at <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/testing/test-results/positive-test-result/>. This includes current guidance on self-isolating.

If you need to seek medical advice

Seek prompt medical attention if your child's illness is worsening. If it's not an emergency, contact [NHS 111 online](#). If you have no internet access, you should call NHS 111.

If it is an emergency and you need to call an ambulance, dial 999 and inform the call handler or operator that the patient has coronavirus (COVID-19).

How to stop COVID-19 spreading

There are things you can do to help reduce the risk of you and anyone you live with getting ill with COVID-19

- wash your hands with soap and water often – do this for at least 20 seconds
- use hand sanitiser gel if soap and water are not available
- wash your hands as soon as you get home
- cover your mouth and nose with a tissue or your sleeve (not your hands) when you cough or sneeze
- put used tissues in the bin immediately and wash your hands afterward
- wear a face covering where it is required or advised to do so

Further Information

The Halton Borough Council website contains information on the range of support that is available for you in these difficult times. <https://hbcnewsroom.co.uk/coronaadvice/>. Further information is also available at <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/>.

If you do not have access to the internet, you can also call **0303 333 4300** or **0151 511 5200** if you need help or support.

I hope you keep safe and well and I thank you for supporting the battle against COVID-19 in Halton.

Yours sincerely,

The Halton Public Health Team,

Halton Borough Council