Header paper

Date

Dear parents and carers

# Re: Coronavirus (COVID-19) – Notification of close contact with a variant of concern

We have been informed by Public Health England and Leicester City Council that a coronavirus (COVID-19) case has been identified in our setting that is related to a variant of concern.

Your child has been identified as a contact of this case and should now isolate for **10 days** from [DATE], which means that the isolation period endson [DATE].

Isolating means that your child **should not** leave your own house or garden until their isolation period ends unless they need to get a test. Getting a test is the **only** reason that allows them to leave the house. They **should not** mix with anyone outside of your household, which includes family members who don’t live with you. You **should not** have any visitors to the house during this time.

As a precautionary measure, Public Health England and Leicester City Council are asking **those children and staff who have been identified as a contact** to take a COVID-19 PCR test on **day 7** of their isolation period. Day 7 for your child is **[DATE].**

A PCR test on day 7 is not required if in the last 90 days:

* Your child has had a positive PCR test
* Your child has had a positive LFD test that wasn’t followed up by a confirmatory PCR test

However, your child must continue with the self-isolation period in these circumstances.

PCR tests are available by:

* Ordering a kit to be delivered to your home by calling 119 or online at
[www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test](http://www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test)
	+ select option that says you do not know if you are a key worker
	+ select ‘order a home kit’.

This is the preferred way to get a test as your child does not need to leave the house.

* Taking your child to a PCR test centre. Find your nearest test centre at [www.leicester.gov.uk/coronavirusupdates](http://www.leicester.gov.uk/coronavirusupdates)
	+ select ‘get a test with symptoms’ (even though you child may not have symptoms)

This is the **only** time your child should leave the house. They must only go to the test centre, come straight home again to complete their isolation period and wear a face mask all the time when outside of the house.

* Asking your setting for support if you are unable to access test kits any other way.

You will receive test results directly to your house. If you receive a positive test please inform the setting urgently as they may need to ask further children to isolate or be tested. The isolation period will need to start again from the date of the positive test to stop any further transmission of the virus. If you receive a negative result your child **must** continue their isolation until [DATE]

If anyone in your household tests positive and needs help (financial, food or medicine) to self-isolate for 10 days, of if you need to stay off work to look after your child while they are isolating, support is available. Please visit [Support for residents (leicester.gov.uk)](https://www.leicester.gov.uk/your-council/coronavirus/coronavirus-support-for-residents/)

Thank you very much for your support. Understanding who might be positive and asking them to isolate is a very good way of reducing the spread of the virus – taking the test is extremely important in controlling this virus.

Vaccination remains a very strong way of protecting people from being hospitalised or becoming seriously ill from COVID-19. If you haven’t yet been vaccinated please think about getting vaccinated – your GP will be able to give more information on where and how you can get your vaccination.

With best wishes and thanks