



Victoria Primary School & Nursery Unit

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Principal : Mr C. Fulton BA Hons (QTS)

Monday 8th November 2021

Dear Parents / Carers of 7AF,

I am writing to inform you that Mrs Foster has, unfortunately, tested positive for Covid-19. This means that Mrs Foster will need to isolate for the next 10 days.

Over the weekend, myself and Mrs Kernaghan (Vice Principal) spent several hours trying to find continuous cover for Mrs Foster's class for the next week and a half. Combined, we contacted numerous substitute teachers, however, we have been unable to find a teacher able to cover for the entire period. As with other employers facing staffing issues, at present, schools are in the same boat.

In order to keep Mrs Foster's class open for the next week and a half, I have had no other option than to seek the support of a few different substitute teachers to cover. Although far from ideal, under the circumstances we currently face, it is the best outcome for now.

Attached to this letter is a letter from the Public Health Agency. This letter outlines that there is no further action required for your child, no need for them to take a PCR Test and that they can continue to attend school as normal.

If I can be of any further assistance, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Yours sincerely,

Mr C. Fulton
Principal

CONFIRMED CASE OF COVID-19 IN SCHOOL SETTING – INFORMATION FOR PARENTS AND STAFF

Where a case of confirmed COVID-19 (Coronavirus) has been reported in a person with links to a school setting, all close contacts of the case who need to take specific actions with regard to testing and self-isolation will be identified, contacted and advised by the Public Health Agency (PHA) Contact Tracing Service.

If you are contacted by PHA Contact Tracing Service, please follow the guidance that they provide to you. Information on the latest self-isolation requirements can be found on NI Direct (<https://www.nidirect.gov.uk/articles/coronavirus-covid-19-self-isolating>). **The advice on what to do if a close contact changed on 16th August 2021.**

What to do if your child develops symptoms of COVID 19

The most common symptoms of COVID-19 are recent onset of:

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

Please book a free PCR test, even if an earlier one was negative. Your child should stay at home and self-isolate until you receive the result. Please see [Coronavirus \(COVID-19\): self-isolating | nidirect](#) for guidance on whether other people in your household also need to self-isolate while you are waiting for your child's PCR result.

Tests can be arranged at your closest testing site or by requesting a postal kit which will be sent to your home address. You can choose whichever option is more convenient for you. Going for a COVID test is one of the reasons your child can leave home during the self-isolation period, however, they should not use public transport. Please order a postal test if you do not have private transport to a test site.

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:

- **Please get vaccinated if you are eligible and haven't already done so**
- 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 afterwards

Further information

For further information, please see the NI Direct website [Coronavirus \(COVID-19\): self-isolating | nidirect](#) the Public Health Agency website <https://www.publichealth.hscni.net/covid-19-coronavirus> or contact NHS 111. If your child feels unwell and you are worried about their symptoms or about anyone else in the home, please contact your GP.