

Rowlands Gill Primary School

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Dear Parents / Carers,

Closure of our Class 5R Bubble

I am sorry to inform you that we have been informed of a confirmed case of COVID-19 within our Class 5R Bubble. This means that our 5R bubble needs to close and the children from that bubble now need to **self-isolate until the end of Monday 19th July** (10 days after last contact). This is because your child has been in close contact with the affected case. This has been reported to Gateshead Public Health and their advice has been sought in determining the action which we have needed to take.

I completely understand how frustrating this will be for you, since the children only just returned to school on Friday, however the teacher that they had all day on Friday has tested positive following symptoms which began on Saturday.

Your child must not go to school or any public areas and must remain at home until the end of the isolation period. Further details of what your child needs to do are in NHS Guidance: <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/testing-for-coronavirus/nhs-test-and-trace-if-youve-been-in-contact-with-a-person-who-has-coronavirus/>

We are asking you to do this to reduce the further spread of COVID 19 to others in the community. If you need support with isolation, please contact your local council.

Neither you, nor any siblings of your child need to self-isolate, unless your child (or another member of your household) develops symptoms. Siblings of children who are in 5R are expected to attend school as normal. If this is going to prove difficult for you logistically, please contact me to discuss how we can help you.

What to do if your child develops symptoms of COVID 19

For most people, especially children, COVID-19 will be a mild illness.

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)

If your child develops any of these symptoms of COVID-19, they should remain at home and arrangements should be made for them to be tested. At that time all other household members must also stay at home, not go to work, school or public areas, even for exercise.

Testing can be arranged by calling 119 or via the NHS website: nhs.uk/coronavirus
You should NOT get your child tested unless they have symptoms. Even if your child had a test which was negative they would still have to self-isolate until the 19th July.

Please contact school to let us know if your child does become unwell and then tests positive. If your child does have to be tested, when the result of the child's test is known further advice will be available.

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 afterwards

The 5R classroom will be left unused for over 72 hours, and then undergo a deep clean to ensure that there is no risk of infection to anyone.

From today, your child will receive activities and work tasks from school to complete each school day up to and including Monday. These will be shared via Google Classroom but may not be available until 10.30am tomorrow to give Mrs Readshaw the chance to alter her planned lessons. Live lessons with Mrs Readshaw are planned to begin on Tuesday – details will be added to the stream on Google Classroom.

If you have any queries about the remote learning, live lessons or logins for Google classroom, please contact Mrs Readshaw via the class email.

If your child is well at the end of the period of self-isolation, then they will be able to **return to school on Tuesday 20th July.** We look forward to getting back to normal then.

We wish a speedy recovery to Miss Harland and are here to support the well-being of anyone who feels they need support in this matter.

Should you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Yours faithfully



Mrs L Clarke
Headteacher