



**Our Ref**

Covid

**If you telephone please ask for**

Public Health Team  
0151 511 5200

**Your ref**

**Date**

14th December 2021

**E-mail address**

[public.health@halton.gov.uk](mailto: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.

On the 14 December 2021 the rules for close contacts of COVID-19 cases changed. Adults who have not had two doses of the vaccine **must** still self-isolate for 10 days. However other close contacts are **strongly advised to take a LFD test every day for 7 days** and continue to attend their setting as normal, unless they have symptoms or a positive test result.

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 are doing twice weekly asymptomatic home 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 symptoms of COVID-19 please get them tested as soon as possible. The symptoms of COVID-19 are:

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

It's all happening **IN HALTON**

**Public Health**

Runcorn Town Hall, Heath Road, Runcorn WA7 5TD

Tel: 0303 333 4300

[www.halton.gov.uk](http://www.halton.gov.uk)

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

### **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**