

Lothian NHS Board

Health Protection Team
 Waverley Gate
 2-4 Waterloo Place
 Edinburgh
 EH1 3EG
www.nhslothian.scot.nhs.uk



Date 25 April 2022

Advice to Parents/Carers

Dear Parent/Carer

In recent days we have been made aware of a member of the **SCHOOL NAME** school community **[in class XX]** who has tested positive for COVID-19. This letter is to inform you that your child has been identified as having been in **'low risk' contact** with this person. This means they may have shared a classroom or had some other low risk contact in school.

There is no need for your child to isolate or take daily LFD tests unless contacted separately by Test and Protect and asked to do so. School remains open and your child should continue to attend if they are well.

The public health judgement that these types of contact are low risk is based on a range of factors, including vaccination rates, evidence about transmission from children and young people, and the low risk of direct health harms to children.

If they develop any **symptoms**, your child must not come to school. They must isolate and you must book a PCR test through www.nhsinform.scot or by phoning 119 if you cannot book online. The cardinal symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19) are recent onset of: new continuous cough; high temperature; or a loss of, or change in, normal sense of taste or smell (anosmia). Whilst the test result is awaited, the rest of the household should follow the advice specific to their vaccination status or age, as set out for contacts of cases in **NHS Inform**.

Please be reassured that for most people coronavirus (COVID-19) will be a mild illness. Children are at particularly low risk of illness and, although our understanding of the Omicron variant is evolving, there is no evidence of a higher risk at present. For those people who are eligible, vaccination, including a **booster dose**, is highly effective at preventing severe disease.

To help reduce the risk to your family and your school community, please also:



Headquarters
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Chair John Connaghan CBE
 Chief Executive Calum Campbell
Lothian NHS Board is the common name of Lothian Health Board

- Ensure everyone in your household is **up to date with their vaccination**, including the **booster**. If you or anyone eligible in your family have not yet been vaccinated or boosted visit www.nhsinform.scot/covid-19-vaccine. **Vaccination** is our best defence against COVID-19 causing anyone to become seriously unwell.
- Adopt **additional caution** over the next 10 days if meeting with friends or family who you know to be at higher levels of risk by e.g. wearing a mask; or meeting outdoors.
- Wear a **face covering** in line with guidance, keep your **distance**, keep rooms **ventilated**, and **wash your hands** with soap and water regularly.

You can find more trusted advice on www.nhsinform.scot.

Yours faithfully

Health Protection Team
NHS Lothian