

24 June 2021



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Dear Parents/Carers,

COVID 19 – Pilton Community College

Thank you for all you have done to support Pilton through this term in respect of the COVID 19 virus. This is a difficult time for all staff and pupils, particularly as cases in our area are starting to rise again.

Facts and Figures

The following facts have been issued by Devon County Council and the Government:

- 129 cases in **Devon** between the 3rd and the 9th June
- 190 cases in **Devon** between the 6th and the 12th June
- 28 cases in **North Devon** 7 days to the 15th June.
- 91% of new COVID 19 cases are the new Delta Variant

Clearly, cases are rising day on day, so it is important that we continue to be vigilant and to comply with the safety measures put in place around school. Although we have not had any cases in school since 25th January 2021, other schools locally are reporting a rise in cases.

Increasing vaccination and continuing LFT testing are an essential part of keeping the virus under control.

What to do if symptoms develop

Should a student develop *symptoms* of COVID-19, they must not come to school and should remain at home for at least 10 days from the date when their symptoms began. You should also book a PCR test. You can do this by [visiting the NHS website](#) or calling 119.

If you have been advised to isolate due to track and trace, you should also arrange to be tested as above. Your children can continue to come to school but need to test daily and report the finding on the NHS and school results site.

The new Delta variant signs and symptoms can include a headache followed by a sore throat, a runny nose and fever. More traditional COVID 19 symptoms such as a cough and loss of smell are much rarer now, with younger people experiencing much more of a bad cold or "funny off" feeling. This is why testing is so important to identify positive cases.

School has been providing all students with 7-pack LFT testing kits every three weeks. If you require additional kits, please do not hesitate to contact us and we can make arrangements for more kits to be provided.

How to stop COVID 19 spreading

To reduce the risk of infection from COVID 19 please remember the following rules:

- Wash your hands with soap and water often – do this for at least 20 seconds
- Use hand sanitiser gel – this is provide all around school
- 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 and sneeze.
- Put used tissues in the bin immediately and wash your hands

Unless medically exempt, staff and students should continue to wear masks (covering their nose and mouth) in the corridors, and should expect to be challenged should they not do so.

Thank you for your support in helping to keep our school community safe and healthy.

Yours faithfully

Graham Hill
Headteacher