



## Cases of Covid 19 are rising rapidly!

You will by now know that the North West is currently at the centre of rising case rates of COVID-19, with the dominant variant being the Delta variant (which is more transmissible than the previous Kent variant). As Liverpool City Region (including Wirral) is increasingly “surrounded” by areas with higher infection levels, we must reluctantly accept the probability that our area may follow the path of increasing transmission rates.

### Testing:

- We would encourage all parents to test twice weekly as an as an indicator of whether there is a likelihood of COVID being transmitted among the family. You can order lateral flow test kits here <https://www.gov.uk/order-coronavirus-rapid-lateral-flow-tests>
- If anyone tests positive, the household should isolate immediately, inform the school/early years setting and book a PCR test.
- Anyone displaying symptoms of Covid 19 must access a PCR test and advise the setting of the result by immediately in order that close contacts can be traced. <https://www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test>

### Close contact:

Please remember that within the NW, we are currently treating ALL cases as if they are of the Delta variant (ie we are not waiting for sequencing confirmation). In order for us to be able to monitor the transmission of this variant, we need ALL close contacts of cases (whether they have symptoms or not) to get a PCR test.

If you are identified as a close contact of someone who has tested positive you will need to request a home-testing kit via the self-booking system [www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test](http://www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test) You will be asked to identify whether they have COVID symptoms. If they have no symptoms, they should select ‘No’ for this answer and proceed through the questions until they get to the question: *Why are you asking for a test?* They should select the box that says - *I’ve been told to get a test by my local council, health protection team or healthcare professional ....* And then the option that states: *My local council or health protection team has asked me to get a test, even though I do not have symptoms.* They can then proceed to book the test.

Please note that a negative PCR for contacts of a case does NOT mean that they can cut short their isolation period (as the virus can still develop during the incubation period of 10 days).

### Prevention:

In order to protect everyone and to ensure that the school remains open, please adhere to all social distancing measures, including:

- Wear a face mask when on the school site
- Maintain a 2m distance from others outside your household bubble
- Adults carry out lateral flow tests twice weekly
- We would also encourage you to get vaccinated as soon as you are eligible