



## Bulletin 6 for Parents/Guardians – 11<sup>th</sup> October 2021

### School Updates – Covid-19

Dear Parent/Guardians:

**There have been 2 identified positive cases of Covid-19 in our school since we returned last August.**

**It is very important that we do not get complacent and that you fully cooperate with public health and advice and always err on the side of caution if your child displays ANY of the symptoms below:**

**i.e. If in doubt please keep your child out**

**We are asking you to please:**

1. Please keep an eye on their health and to check for symptoms of COVID-19. Symptoms of Covid-19 can include some or all of the following - fever (temperature of 38°C or higher), cough, shortness of breath, any loss or change to the senses of smell or taste, headache, sore throat, or a runny nose. If any pupil develops these symptoms they must self-isolate and contact their GP for advice regarding a COVID-19 test.
2. Public Health Encourages all those who are eligible for vaccination within your school community to access appropriate information around this (available at <https://www2.hse.ie/screening-and-vaccinations/covid-19-vaccine/>) For those wishing to arrange vaccination, they can do so at either:
  - a. Register using the HSE Vaccine portal (<https://vaccine.hse.ie/#register>)
  - b. **OR** phone the HSE at 1800 700 700

**What is the advice for close contacts who are fully-vaccinated against COVID-19?**

Close contacts who are fully-vaccinated against COVID-19 are required to restrict their movements until they receive a call from the HSE Contact Management Programme. During this call a review of each close contact's vaccination (dates and type) and medical history will determine whether the vaccine is likely to provide "significant immunity" for them. **The close contact will then be advised whether they can return to school or whether they need to continue to restrict movements.**

**When is a person considered to be fully-vaccinated?**

- a. 7 days after receipt of the second Pfizer-BioNTech dose (two dose vaccination course)
- b. 15 days after receipt of the second AstraZeneca dose (two dose vaccination course)

**What is the advice for close contacts who are not fully-vaccinated against COVID-19?**

- Close contacts who are not fully-vaccinated will need to go for two PCR tests for COVID-19, one as soon as possible and one on Day 10 after their last exposure to the COVID-19 case.
- They will need to restrict their movements ([stay at home](#)) until the Day 10 test has been done. This includes not attending work or school.



· If the Day 10 test result is “not detected” or negative, the pupil or staff member can return to school provided they do not have symptoms of COVID-19.

**What about the families of those who are close contacts?**

Other people who live at home with the close contact do not need to restrict their movements, provided the close contact has no Covid symptoms. This means they can continue to attend school. If the close contact tests positive for COVID-19, the household will then need to restrict their movements.

**What if a close contact declines the COVID-19 test?**

Testing is not mandatory. But if a close contact does not have a Day 10 test done, this means they need to continue to restrict their movements for 14 days after their last contact with the person with COVID-19.

**The school does not have any role to play in contact tracing anymore and are contacted by public health to inform them of 1: if a positive case has been identified and 2: if there are any close contacts identified (we are not informed of the details of these , if any).**

As always, I want to thank you for your cooperation and support,

Every best wish,

Rachel O' Connor,  
Principal