

Health Protection Team
Public Health Department
Afton House
Ailsa Hospital
Dalmellington Road
Ayr
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Medical In Confidence

Parents / Carers of young people
attending The Robert Burns Academy

Date	22 nd June 2021
Enquiries to	Health Protection Team
Direct line	01292 885858
Email	HPteam@aapct.scot.nhs.uk

Dear Parent / Carer

Closure of The Robert Burns Academy

NHS Ayrshire & Arran's Health Protection Team is conducting a contact tracing exercise in relation to a number of confirmed cases of Coronavirus (COVID-19) infection connected to The Robert Burns Academy.

Following careful consideration of all available information and in conjunction with East Ayrshire Council, we have agreed a closure of the school until Friday 25th of June. This will mean that the school will not now re-open until 19th of August due to the summer break.

Please note that Lochnorris Primary School, Cherry Trees Early Childhood Centre and Hillside School are not affected by this closure and remain open as normal.

ADVICE FOR CHILDREN AND STAFF WHO ARE CONTACTS OF A CASE

Given the developing situation, **there will now be a change to the information** you may already have received about self-isolation.

If your child has already been asked to self-isolate as a contact, their siblings must now also self-isolate. There will be no change to end of isolation dates already given.

If you are not contacted by our Test and Protect Team, this means that your child has not been identified as a close contact and therefore is not required to have a test or self-isolate.

We also recommend that children who are identified as close contacts and are tested for COVID-19. Ideally this test should be taken within 3 to 5 days of their last contact with the confirmed positive case. This will help identify cases where there are no symptoms; this will help stop further spread of the virus. If your child has siblings that are also being asked to isolate, they do not have to book a PCR test unless they develop symptoms.

However, even if the COVID-19 test result is negative, any child identified as a contact and their household should continue to complete their 10 days of isolation. If they develop symptoms at any point during isolation a further test should be arranged. If the test result is positive, you will be contacted by Test and Protect to give further details.

ADVICE FOR YOUNG PEOPLE WITH SYMPTOMS OF INFECTION

We would like to remind people of the symptoms of Coronavirus (COVID-19):

- new cough;
- high temperature (37.8 or above);
- and / or loss of taste and smell.

There may be other milder symptoms which can include sore throat, runny nose, headaches, vomiting and diarrhoea.

Anyone who develops any of these symptoms should book a test and self-isolate immediately.

If your child has been in The Robert Burns Academy from the 14th of June, and shows any of the symptoms mentioned above, we would like to ask them to be tested and kept at home until the result of the test is available.

If your child develops COVID-19 symptoms and they are ill or you are worried about their health, call NHS 24 on 111 for medical help.

HOW TO BOOK A TEST

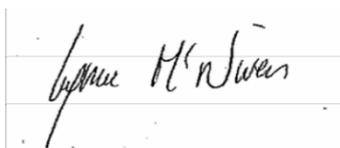
Individuals with symptoms or who are identified as contacts of a case can book a test contacting NHS 24 on 119 or visiting their website <https://www.nhsinform.scot/>.

Parents / carers who need assistance in relation to testing can contact the school to seek further support.

Testing is also available in a number of locations across Ayrshire, which are listed in the enclosed document.

We appreciate this is a very worrying time. However, we would like to assure you that every measure is being taken to protect children, their families and staff.

Yours sincerely



Mrs Lynne McNiven
Director of Public Health



Linda McAulay-Griffiths
Head of Education, East Ayrshire Council