

Dear Parent

As we all look forward to the holiday, I wanted to get in touch to thank you for all of your support over these last few months. It has undoubtedly been a challenging time for us all as we have adapted to the pressures and restrictions we have faced and worked together to mitigate the impact of the pandemic. This has been a very different term to our usual experience; however, every single one of our pupils and members of staff has come together, supporting one another with all the different challenges and problems we have faced, and helped keep our schools as safe as possible for us all to continue with our learning.

Over the last few weeks, we have seen the number of positive cases begin to fall within East Renfrewshire. I am pleased that the number of cases across all of our schools has remained very low, with fewer children and young people missing out on school as a result. This is great news. Although the number of cases remains low and the measures across our schools are helping to keep everyone as safe as possible, we are likely still to see some positive cases in the weeks ahead. I therefore wanted to update you on the arrangements that have been put in place which should be followed if your child tests positive during the school holidays from Friday 18th December to Monday 4th January.

Positive Case where your child's symptoms first developed on or before Sunday 20th December

1. Email COVIDeducation@eastrenfrewshire.gov.uk – there is no need to contact the school directly
2. Provide your child's details including the name of the school, class and date of birth. This will help make sure your child's details can be found quickly
3. Explain when the symptoms first began
4. Give details of when the test was undertaken and when you received the positive result
5. Let us know when your child was last in school

Positive Case where your child's symptoms developed on or after Monday 21st December

If your child develops symptoms on or after Monday 21st December, there is no need for you to email the Education Department. Instead, you will be contacted by the Test & Protect team who will discuss the details with you and ask for the information they need. As your child will not have been in school for more than 48 hours before they developed symptoms, there will be no need for any in-school contacts to be identified.

Please note: It is important to remember the response required will depend on when your child's symptoms first start – not from when they receive a positive test result.

If your child tests positive during the holidays and has to self-isolate beyond the school return date of 5th January, please contact your child's school directly, as you would for any other absence.

If you have any questions in the meantime, please contact the school for further information.

Kind regards

Graeme Hay
Education Senior Manager
East Renfrewshire Council