



Covid-19 Briefing Update August 2021

You may be aware that Covid 19 rates in North Lanarkshire are the highest they have ever been. There has been a huge rise in the number of cases since children returned to school from Summer break. The First Minister has suggested that we could return to the tier system, that restrictions could be re-introduced, and has not ruled out closing schools again if need be, if rates continue to rise so rapidly.

With this in mind we thought it would be helpful to remind you of key information for you to keep at hand as we do our best to keep our community safe.

If you or your child are identified as a close contact please see below for the following next steps:

Adults who are fully vaccinated (for more than two weeks) and identified by Test and Protect (T&P) as close contacts should isolate immediately and book a PCR test; if this is negative and they have no symptoms, they can return to work.

Children and young people under the age of 18 that are identified by T&P as close contacts should isolate immediately and book a PCR test; if this is negative and they have no symptoms, they can return to school.

If anyone (adult or child) has had a positive PCR test in the last 90 days then they do not need to seek a further PCR test (unless symptomatic) and do not need to isolate.

Please note, if an adult is identified by Test and Protect as a close contact and has not been vaccinated, or has only had a single dose of the vaccine, then they should:

- Self-isolate immediately for 10 days from symptom onset in the symptomatic person and book a PCR test;
- If the test is positive, they should continue to self-isolate in line with NHS guidance.
- If the test is negative, still continue to self-isolate in line with NHS guidance. This is because a test cannot indicate whether someone is incubating the disease, and therefore may go on to develop it after a test is taken.

Here is what you can do to help us in the Mossend community:

Please do not send your child to school if they display any of the following symptoms, no matter how mild:

- A new cough
- A persistent cough
- A temperature
- Loss of taste and/or smell

New strains can be indicated by less common symptoms which may include;

- Sore head
- Runny nose
- Aches and pains
- Vomiting
- Rash
- Loss of appetite
- Your child doesn't seem their usual self
- Dehydration

We would encourage that if your child displayed anything out of the ordinary then please err on the side of caution and have this checked out. PCR tests are more sensitive and are more accurate. Lateral flow tests should not be used for anyone displaying symptoms, these are for use of asymptomatic persons.

When around our school grounds and building please ensure that you wear a face mask unless exempt and social distance from other parents. Please remember that parents are not permitted into the playground in the mornings, and only 1 adult per P1 – P3 child should collect children at collection times. Do not arrive too early for pick up times, arrive a few minutes ahead of your child's exit time and allow children in the exit time prior to clear before you enter the school grounds. Please inform any family members who may be collecting your child of these procedures too.

We understand that the changing guidance can be confusing, if you are unsure then please don't hesitate to give us a call and we will do our best to help.

