



Tobermore Primary School

6 Maghera Road, Tobermore, BT45 5QB

Tel: 028 7964 2254

Website: www.tobermoreps.com
info@tobermoreps.magherafelt.ni.sch.uk

Principal: Mr. Ian Cheevers



6th September 2021

Dear Parent(s)/Carers,

It has been so great being able to welcome our children back to school and watch them settle back into their new classrooms and year groups after the summer holidays. Our return to school has coincided with what seems to be a rise in COVID cases in the local area, so with this in mind I wish to update you on COVID regulations in primary Schools, which have changed since June.

Please note, the information below represents the interpretation and application of the most up to date DE/PHA guidance for schools, within the context of Tobermore Primary School. We fully expect this to be a starting point only, from where procedures will be revised and evolve as the term progresses. We hope that you find it helpful.

A 'close contact' within Tobermore Primary School, is any pupil within the class bubble when a pupil/staff member tests positive for COVID.

Please take a few minutes to read this letter.

Management Diagram for Tobermore Primary School (6th September 2021)

<u>Day 0</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- PCR Test is taken by Pupil A.
<u>Day 1</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Pupil A receives a POSITIVE test result.- Parents are notified that there is a positive case of COVID in the class and that their child is a close contact.- <u>Pre 9am Notification</u> – CLASS CLOSED for all pupils and staff in that bubble.- <u>Notification after 9 am:</u> Class will close immediately, and parents will be required to collect their children as soon as possible once contacted by school.- All members of the class bubble should book a <u>PCR test</u> immediately for the following day and for Day 8.- All members of the class bubble need to isolate until the test result.
<u>Day 2</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- CLASS IS CLOSED for all pupils and staff who were identified as close contacts.- All members of the class bubble will take a <u>PCR test</u>.- Teacher of class will provide remote learning via School Website – Home Learning Page – Password – Tobermore2254 or if possible, a pack will be lifted from school office. (This will be communicated depending on the circumstances).- When tasks are completed, work will then be uploaded to the following online learning platforms



Tobermore Primary School

6 Maghera Road, Tobermore, BT45 5QB

Tel: 028 7964 2254

Website: www.tobermoreps.com
info@tobermoreps.magherafelt.ni.sch.uk

Principal: Mr. Ian Cheevers



	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Year 1 to Year 5 – SeeSaw- Year 6 to Year 7 – Microsoft Teams <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Tasks will also be set on Studyladder, and parents will be notified of this.- All members of the class bubble must continue to isolate and stay away from school.
<u>Day 3</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- CLASS RE-OPENS- Pupils can return to school if they have received a NEGATIVE PCR test result.- Please inform the school via email - info@tobermoreps.magherafelt.ni.sch.uk if your child receives a NEGATIVE PCR test result. A picture can be sent of this confirmation, but this is at the parent's own discretion.- If PCR test is POSITIVE, then the child/staff member should isolate for 10 days from onset of symptoms or from date of the test if asymptomatic. <p><u>If your child does not take a PCR test, then they should isolate and cannot return to their class bubble until Day 10 of this management diagram.</u></p>
<u>Day 4 – 7</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- CLASS IS OPEN as usual for all pupils who have received a NEGATIVE PCR test result. These pupils can come to school unless they have developed symptoms, at which point they should isolate immediately and notify the school.- Should a pupil develop symptoms or test POSITIVE during Days 4 – 7, the 'clock' will reset for those pupils who are identified as 'close contacts' and the management process returns to Day 1 of this diagram.
<u>Day 8</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- If there are no new positive cases during day 4 – 7, all remaining pupils must take their Day 8 PCR test. The class will remain OPEN during day 8 and pupils can return to school once their test has been undertaken.
<u>Day 9</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Please inform your child's teacher via email or through the online learning platform if your child receives a NEGATIVE PCR test result. A picture can be sent of this confirmation at your own discretion.- If the PCR test is POSITIVE, then that pupil should isolate for 10 days from the onset of symptoms or from the date of test if anyone is asymptomatic. This will 'reset the clock' for the new close contacts identified and return them to day 1 of the management process.
<u>Day 10</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- CLASS IS OPEN AS USUAL for all those who have continued to test NEGATIVE. Any pupils who did not take a PCR test on Day 2 can now return to school.



Tobermore Primary School

6 Maghera Road, Tobermore, BT45 5QB

Tel: 028 7964 2254

Website: www.tobermoreps.com
info@tobermoreps.magherafelt.ni.sch.uk

Principal: Mr. Ian Cheevers



NB: Any child who has tested positive in a **PCR test** in the last 90 days doesn't need to do anything regarding testing and can come into school straight away unless they are displaying symptoms. **(Please see attached diagram)**

Remote teaching arrangements for classes which have confirmed COVID case.

Teaching Staff will provide 'Remote Learning' via school website Home Learning page. Completed tasks will then be uploaded via online learning platforms e.g., SeeSaw or Microsoft Teams. Please note that some tasks may be available on Studyladder, but parents will be informed of this.

A short summary of what the class are doing will be uploaded to the Home Learning page for any pupil who is isolating due to a **POSITIVE** result or for those pupils unable to return to school until Day 10 because they have not taken a **PCR test**.

This summary will not be as 'detailed' and might not be scheduled for 9 am each day because the teaching staff will be teaching their respective class and are unable to provide both in class teaching and remote learning effectively.

Please note that if your child is symptomatic and is unwell due to testing positive, then it is not essential for work to be completed when off school.

Below is an example timeline for a COVID case in school

Child A comes to school on Monday 1st and then feels unwell that evening.

Parents book a PCR test for Tuesday 2nd and keep Child A off school.

Child A receives a Positive Test result on Wednesday 3rd or Thursday 4th and inform school.

School contacts PHA and the advice is that anyone identified as a close contact of Child A up to 48 hours before Monday 1st which was the last day in school for Child A and also the day, they developed symptoms. This being the case all close contacts of Child A during Saturday, Sunday and Monday need to isolate and book PCR tests. As a school we will inform all pupils within that class bubble who were in school on Monday 1st to book a PCR test and stay off school until result comes back negative. All pupils in affected class stay at home or are collected from school need book a PCR Test (Day 2) ASAP and inform school of test result.

Pupils with negative result can return to school as soon as result arrives.

All pupils not taking a PCR Test or 'logging' a negative result need to isolate until Thursday 10th.

All pupils should Book a PCR Test for Day 8 (Tuesday 8th) which is 8 days after last contact with Child A. This test can be a postal one. Pupils can continue to come to school on days 8 and 9.

Pupils can upload/log results of test from Day 8 and continue to come to school. If results from day 8 test aren't back yet pupils can still come to school and then upload/log result when it arrives.



Tobermore Primary School

6 Maghera Road, Tobermore, BT45 5QB

Tel: 028 7964 2254

Website: www.tobermoreps.com
info@tobermoreps.magherafelt.ni.sch.uk

Principal: Mr. Ian Cheevers



Any pupils who were isolating or didn't book at PCR Test on day 2 can return to school on Thursday 10th.

Whilst still disruptive, we are hopeful that this approach will mean pupils need to be out of school for less time than during the last academic year.

We are very conscious that COVID numbers across NI are still high so if your child is symptomatic at all e.g., have the following symptoms

- **a high temperature** – this means you feel hot to touch on your chest or back (you do not need to measure your temperature), or;
- **a new, continuous cough** – this means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours (if you usually have a cough, it may be worse than usual), or;
- **anosmia** - the loss or a change in your normal sense of smell (it can also affect your sense of taste)

Source: <https://www.nidirect.gov.uk/articles/coronavirus-covid-19-overview-and-advice>

or has been identified as a close contact, please do not send them to school. You must isolate them, notify the school via email - info@tobermoreps.magherafelt.ni.sch.uk (outside of school hours) or phone – 02879642254 (during school hours), and book a **PCR test** immediately.

All arrangements will be kept under review and any changes will be communicated to you as and when appropriate and/or necessary. If you have any other queries or question that have not been answered through the information provided, please do not hesitate to get in touch with Mr Cheevers.

Yours truly,

Ian Cheevers
(Principal Tobermore Primary School)
icheevers766@c2kni.net



Tobermore Primary School

6 Maghera Road, Tobermore, BT45 5QB

Tel: 028 7964 2254

Website: www.tobermoreps.com
info@tobermoreps.magherafelt.ni.sch.uk

Principal: Mr. Ian Cheevers



OTHER INFECTION CONTROL MEASURES IN SCHOOL

Hand Hygiene

Ensuring good hand hygiene is a very important measure to take to prevent the spread of the virus. Children should sanitise or wash their hands upon entering the school building. They will wash their hands before and after eating, and before leaving school. Washing for 20 seconds with soapy water is recommended as the best measure to kill the virus. Children should also have a hand lotion with them to replace the lost moisture. Before going to sleep, children should use a high strength hand cream like Aveeno or E45.

Respiratory Hygiene

Children should be taught to sneeze or cough into a tissue or, if this is not possible, into the sleeve of their jumper. '**Catch it, Kill it, Bin it**' posters are displayed throughout the school and there are tissues in each classroom. But we would still ask that each child has a small box of tissues or packet of tissues to keep on their desk or in their school bag.

Children showing COVID-19 symptoms should not be sent to school. Furthermore, children who exhibit symptoms will be isolated and sent home from school immediately.

The symptoms are: -

- *a high temperature – this means you feel hot to touch on your chest or back (you do not need to measure your temperature), or;*
- *a new, continuous cough – this means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours (if you usually have a cough, it may be worse than usual), or;*
- *anosmia - the loss or a change in your normal sense of smell (it can also affect your sense of taste)"*

Please remember that a high temperature for one day still is a symptom of COVID and therefore you child may require a PCR test before returning to school

Cleaning regime

In school, surfaces that are regularly touched by many children, are disinfected first thing in the morning, at 11:00am and at the end of the day by Mrs Kelly. As well as this, surfaces are cleaned by staff at the before lunch and break.

Foreign Travel

If any child has returned from foreign travel or is intending on travelling abroad, they should inform the school as to consider the best way forward. Please consult the most up to date PHA advice from the Government websites, as this advice is changing daily.

CHILDREN WITH UNDERLYING HEALTH CONDITIONS

Children who have underlying health conditions will need to discuss with their doctor any extra precautions that they need to take when coming to school. This includes children with heart problems, severe asthma, cystic fibrosis, diabetes and compromised immune systems, to name but a few. If your child is in this category, and you have not done so already, please contact you doctor and inform me of any concerns on or before school commences.