



Oldham
Council

27th May 2021

Public Health
4th Floor Civic Centre
West Street,

Dear Parent

Re: Coronavirus (COVID-19)

We have been advised that there has been a small cluster of confirmed cases of COVID-19 within the community at Newman College.

We have carried out a full risk assessment and identified all those who have been in close contact with the affected case. They have been instructed to stay at home and self-isolate until 10 days after their last contact.

Your child has **not** been identified as a close contact and therefore they do not need to make any change to their usual routine. They should continue to attend school as usual.

However, as a precautionary measure, we are advising that students within the school **should wear face coverings in communal areas in school** whilst we address the cluster of cases. Students do not have to wear face coverings in classrooms; however, some pupils may choose to wear a face covering in a classroom due to their individual situation.

The virus that causes COVID-19 is spread through our breath, our nose and mouth, when we talk, sing, cough, sneeze, or do anything else that involves breathing. A face covering greatly reduces the distance our breath can travel, and that helps to protect everyone.

What to do if you develop symptoms of COVID 19

Please remember, that if your child, or anyone in your household, develops the key COVID-19 symptoms, the whole household must remain at home and not go to work, school or public places. These symptoms are recent onset of a new continuous cough and/or a high temperature and/or a loss of, or change in, normal sense of taste or smell (anosmia). You should arrange for testing via the link above or by calling 119.

What to do if you have to isolate

Keeping yourself away from other people when you could be infectious is the most effective way of stopping COVID-19. You are not alone if you find doing this hard. Planning can make things easier. For more help and support go to www.oldham.gov.uk/coronavirus

If you have to self-isolate due to COVID, then you may be eligible for self-isolation payments. For more information go to <https://www.oldham.gov.uk/selfisolationpayment>.

I understand you might be concerned about this, but this recommendation about wearing face coverings is being made to ensure that we stop any further spread.

Yours sincerely,

Katrina Stephens
Director of Public Health