



The Government of Sark

PANDEMIC EMERGENCY COMMITTEE

A COMMITTEE OF THE CHIEF PLEAS OF SARK

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Advice for pupils, parents and staff

As we are all aware, children are unlikely to become seriously ill with COVID 19. However, they form a large part of our community, are unvaccinated and able to transmit the virus to adults, some of whom may be vulnerable. The Committee would ask all parents to follow the guidelines below which will help protect our community and Bailiwick Healthcare system.

Displaying symptoms at school

If a student presents with a runny nose **and this is their only symptom**, they can continue to attend school as normal. A runny nose with no other symptom does not require parents to call the Surgery to arrange a PCR test and **there is no need to send a child home who only has a runny nose**.

However, if a child has a runny nose **combined with any other symptom linked to COVID-19**, for example a headache, a cough, or a fever, you should keep them at home and call the Surgery on 832045 to arrange a PCR test. If your child receives a negative result, they can return to school provided they are well enough. Please be aware that, if your child subsequently develops any additional COVID-19 symptoms after returning to school, **Dr Borchardt has advised that they must be sent home and you should contact the Surgery again**.

Parents, carers, and visitors to education settings should wear face coverings whenever they are on school grounds. This includes pick-up and drop-off, and when attending any events hosted by education settings.

It is expected that all visitors to school premises will wear a face covering. This includes parents' evenings and school events. For those unable to wear a face covering, lanyards and exemption cards are available.

These measures remain strongly recommended but staff, parents and carers are being asked to take a proactive approach to the wearing of face coverings where appropriate to ensure the safety of everyone at Sark school and our wider community.

For adults in primary schools and Early Years settings, face coverings should be worn in situations indoors where physical distancing between adults is not possible. If a child of primary school age wants to wear a face covering, they are of course free to do so but this is not a requirement. It continues to be the case that there will be times in the classrooms or learning areas when face coverings may hinder teaching and will not be needed, but only where there is additional mitigation in place, such as careful social distancing from pupils and ventilation of rooms.

Thank you