

27th September 2021

Dear Parents,

I hope that you are well.

As you may be aware, in line with recommendations from NPHET, the routine contact tracing of asymptomatic close contacts in children (<13yrs) attending primary school will no longer take place after today, Monday 27th September. As per updated contact tracing guidance (<https://www.hpsc.ie>) it is now recommended by the HSE that:

1. Anyone who has symptoms of Covid-19 should self-isolate at home immediately and contact their GP for advice and guidance, and to arrange a Covid-19 test if appropriate
2. Automatic contact tracing is no longer recommended for primary school children who are asymptomatic but were close contacts of cases outside of the household setting and vulnerable settings (Special Educational Needs and Respite Facilities)
3. Cases and outbreaks in Special Educational Needs settings should have a public health risk assessment which may require children to be referred for testing and have their movements restricted.
4. Primary school children who are identified as **household contacts**, who are not fully vaccinated or have not had a confirmed case of Covid-19 in the past 9 months, will still be required to restrict their movements and will have testing arranged for them

Household contacts will now include a child aged under 13 years, who was present over-night, in the house or in close contact in a residential setting, of a case whilst they were infectious i.e., any child who was attending a 'sleepover' when someone in the household was infectious with Covid-19, will also be designated a close-contact and required to restrict their movements and be tested

5. Primary school children with symptoms consistent with Covid-19 should immediately self-isolate and not attend school
6. If a member of a household has symptoms of Covid-19 and/or awaiting testing or a result children, who are not fully vaccinated or have not had a confirmed case of Covid-19 in the past 9 months, will still be required to restrict their movements.

As always, it is imperative that parents make contact with me on 086 7769805 or maire.boyle@knockns.ie/principal@knockns.ie if their child tests positive for Covid-19. If you have any queries/concerns relating to the information above please do not hesitate to contact me.

Kind regards,

Máire

Knock, Claremorris, Co Mayo

T: (094) 93 88435 E: admin@knockns.ie W: www.knockns.ie

Principal: Ms Máire Boyle

