

COVID and test and trace during the school closure period

Contact tracing will not be taking place in the usual way during the Christmas Holiday when schools are closed and there is less chance of school-based contacts existing. Please follow this guidance if your child begins to show symptoms of COVID-19 during the Christmas Holiday.

If your child develops symptoms of COVID-19 within 48 hours of being in school. You must seek a test for your child and the household must isolate at home until the test result is returned. You should let the school know that this has occurred. The quickest way to obtain a test is to book a test at your local testing centre via <https://www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test>. Please do not use postal tests unless absolutely necessary as these take longer.

If the test result is positive for COVID-19, you must inform the school, who will identify if there are any other individuals within the school community who are impacted by this. Self-isolation and household isolation must then continue for 10 days following the day when symptoms occurred.

If the test result is negative, you should still inform the school and you do not need to take any further action.

During the immediate school closure period (Monday 21st – Weds 23rd) you should contact Mrs Eady, Data and Attendance Officer at the school by email studentabsence@stourvalley.org marking your email as 'COVID-19'. Emails will be checked daily.

You must provide the following information: name of student, Tutor Group, symptoms and date of symptoms starting (unless asymptomatic), date test taken, date test results received, mode of transport to school, name of person reporting the information and contact number.

If your child develops symptoms of COVID-19 more than 48 hours after their last day in school. You must seek a test for your child and the household must isolate at home until the test result is returned. If the test result is positive for COVID-19, having developed symptoms more than 48 hours since being in school i.e. Sunday 20 December onwards, you must contact NHS Test and Trace and follow the advice given by them: www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/testing-and-tracing/

You should contact the school if your child will be absent on the first day of the Spring Term 4 January due to Covid-19 self-isolation.

If you are contacted by the school because your child is identified as a close contact of someone who has tested positive for COVID-19, they must self-isolate for 10 days following the positive contact.

Further information can be found at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-stay-at-home-guidance/stay-at-home-guidance-for-households-with-possible-coronavirus-covid-19-infection>