



The Astley Cooper School

Part of the East Dacorum Co-operative Learning Trust

17 December 2020

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Dear Parent / Carer

Reporting Covid-19 cases during the Christmas holidays

Headteacher: Edward Gaynor

The school will monitor the dedicated email below until Christmas Eve. If your child tests positive for coronavirus (COVID-19) between Saturday 19 and Thursday 24 December, please notify us as soon as possible so we can complete the relevant tracking and tracing process with public health, if required, and notify any other children or staff who have been in close contact and who need to self-isolate.

During the holidays, you should contact ave.catterall@astleycooper.herts.sch.uk. **This email will only be monitored between the hours of 9.00am and 12.00pm until Christmas Eve.** Please do not call the normal absence line.

If your child or any member of your household develops symptoms they must start self-isolating immediately and book a test by calling 119.

The main symptoms of coronavirus are:

- a high temperature
- a new, continuous cough – this means coughing a lot, for more than an hour, or three or more coughing episodes in 24 hours
- a loss or change to sense of smell or taste – this means they cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal

If you are not sure whether symptoms suggest that they have COVID-19 or an everyday cough or cold, you can consult this online NHS symptom checker: <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/symptoms/>

Please do not send children back to school after Christmas if any of the following apply:

- they have symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19)
- they, any members of your household, or any close contacts (including extended family or friends they have seen in Christmas bubbles) have tested positive for COVID-19
- they haven't completed the full 10 day isolation period requested

Self-isolating is one of the most important things we can all do to help stop the spread of the virus and protect our loved ones and the vulnerable. You can read the helpful self-isolating guide at: www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/selfisolatingguide

If you or your family are affected by COVID-19 and need support locally with shopping, getting medication or financial advice, visit www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/coronavirus

Yours sincerely

Mr E Gaynor
Headteacher

