



Ysgol Rhosnesni Suspected Covid-19 Symptoms

Escalation Policy and Procedures September 2020

Please ensure that you have read the following guidance for all staff, students and parents/carers.

Prevention

Operational guidance for schools states that headteachers should ensure that any staff member or learner who has symptoms or who is tested positive for COVID-19, or who has someone in their household who has symptoms or has tested positive for COVID-19, does not attend the school setting.

Under no circumstances should learners or staff attend schools/settings if they:

- Feel unwell with any of the identified COVID-19 symptoms. They should remain at home, self-isolate, and arrange a COVID-19 test.
- Have tested positive for COVID-19.
- Live in a household with someone who has symptoms of, or has tested positive for COVID-19. All schools and settings must follow this process and ensure all staff are aware of it.

Rhosnesni has a clear escalation policy and procedure in place if learners or staff begin to show symptoms of COVID-19 while at the school/setting. This needs to be fully understood by staff, learners and parents/carers.

Guidance states that those showing symptoms should be kept separate until they can be collected and taken home. Ideally, this should be in a separate room, supervised at a distance of two metres where possible, but recognising this may not be possible with younger learners. If they need clinical advice, they (or a member of staff or their parent/carer) should go online to 111 Wales (or call 111 if they do not have internet access).

At Rhosnesni, if a child presents or claims to have symptoms of Covid-19 during the school day they should be escorted (at a 2m distance) to the former Nurture Room – now the Covid-19 Escalation Zone. Here the decision to send home will be made by a member of the Senior Leadership Team.

The main symptoms of coronavirus are:

- A high temperature: this means you feel hot to touch on your chest or back (you do not need to measure your temperature).

- A new, continuous cough: this means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours (if you usually have a cough, it may be worse than usual).
- A loss or change to your sense of smell or taste: this means you've noticed you cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal.

Children who require immediate first aid (cuts, bruises, asthma) should not be placed in the Covid-19 Escalation Zone. Children who report other symptoms of minor illness (headaches, runny noses) should not be placed in the room. They should be assessed by a member of the pastoral team and dealt with accordingly.

Whilst waiting to be collected from the Borrás Road gate, children in this room must wear face masks and be socially distanced (at least 2m) if multiple students are present. Staff must also take necessary precautions. The route to the Borrás Gate is entirely outdoors, again mitigating any infection risks. The escalation zone should be regularly cleaned, especially surfaces that learners may have come into contact with, such as plastic chairs.

Anyone displaying symptoms of COVID-19 should stay at home and begin to self-isolate for the timeframe set out in the guidance while making arrangements to be tested. Anyone who lives with someone displaying COVID-19 symptoms, or is in an extended household arrangement with someone displaying symptoms must also self-isolate at home for the appropriate time periods set out in the self-isolation guidance. Children may return to school once a negative test result is received.

Notifying the school of a Covid-19 test result:

As soon as you receive the test result, please forward evidence of this by email to our Attendance Officer: attendance@rhosnesni-high.wrexham.sch.uk

If the test is negative and your child is well enough to return to school, they may return the following day. If your child remains unwell, please notify us of their expected return date.

Our Attendance Officer can be contacted directly during school hours by calling: 01978 340947 or emailing as above.

If you have any further concerns or questions, please speak to a member of the school's Senior Leadership Team.

Temperature Checks

Government guidance states:

“The present advice is that it is not necessary to screen temperatures. Learners' parents/carers can check for signs of a high temperature. In any case, screening will not identify all cases of COVID-19 and the means of checking temperature may put staff at greater risk of transmission, as well as cause worry or concern for learners. We will keep this under review. Staff should of course be vigilant for changes to learners' temperatures and signs of fever”.

At Rhosnesni, we are not currently screening temperatures.

*Please also read the Ysgol Rhosnesni Covid-19 related pupil absence, a quick reference guide for parents' document that is available on our school website.