

## **Saltersgate School**

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**Education**

Headteacher  
Stephen Buggy



**Midlothian**



### **Our School Vision**

*Purposeful – Sustainable - Enjoyable*

Monday 7<sup>th</sup> September 2020

Dear Parents/Carers

### **COVID-19 Update**

This week we will send e-mails to all families with updates to the FAQs document for all parents and carers. You will also receive a letter from the National Clinical Director, Jason Leitch. I have attached an updated version of our in-school summary guide for parents and carers to follow, should someone in your household develop symptoms of COVID-19. Please take some time to read the information and familiarise yourself with all current guidance.

All current guidance and information can also be found on our school website:  
<https://Saltersgate.mgfl.net>

Thank you to all our parents and carers for your continued support during the start of the school session in ensuring that our school environment remains as safe as is possible.

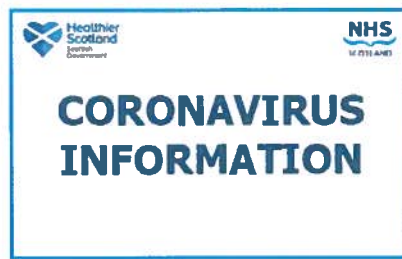
Regards,

Stephen Buggy  
Head Teacher

Here at Midlothian Council, we take your privacy seriously. Under the Data Protection Act 2018, you have a right to know how we collect, use and share your personal data.

This privacy notice explains the information we need in order to carry out School and Nursery provision. This activity is part of the Education Service provided by Midlothian Council. More information about the Education Service privacy notice can be found at:-

<https://www.midlothian.gov.uk/info/200285/access-to-information/338/privacy-and-cookies/9>.



## What to do if symptoms of COVID-19 are present?

### The main symptoms of COVID-19 are:

- New continuous cough and/or
- Fever/high temperature and/or
- Loss of, or change in, sense of smell or taste.

1. If any member of your household displays any of the symptoms of COVID-19 you **should not** send your child to school.

*Please note: Any child arriving at school with any of the above symptoms will be sent home.*

- You should arrange a test for the family member displaying symptoms.
- This can be arranged online at [www.nhsinform.scot](http://www.nhsinform.scot) or call 0800 028 2816.
- The whole household should isolate at home whilst waiting on the test results.
- Pupils are able to return to school following a negative test result and when they feel better.

2. If someone in class displays any of the symptoms of COVID-19 during the school day.

- Arrangements will be made for this person to self isolate in school and sent home at earliest opportunity.
- Arrangements will also be made for any pupils or staff who have had close contact with person displaying symptoms during the day to self isolate at home.

This means that at times some or all of the class will be asked to self isolate until the test result of the person who has displayed COVID-19 symptoms is known.

***NOTE: This is a different procedure to that followed by mainstream schools due to the specific context of our school.***

- It is not necessary for the households of our pupils and staff to self isolate at this time, unless they also have symptoms.

***School will remain in contact with families with relevant updates throughout***

Professor Jason Leitch, National Clinical Director



Scottish Government  
Riaghaltas na h-Alba  
gov.scot

E: [HealthConditionCovidEnquiries@gov.scot](mailto:HealthConditionCovidEnquiries@gov.scot)

To Parents / Carers

31 August 2020

## Common Cold and COVID-19 Symptoms

I understand these last few months have often been challenging, particularly for parents and carers. Now that schools and nurseries have returned I am writing to provide some advice where a child or young person in your care presents with symptoms of the common cold or similar bugs during this pandemic.

Following the return of schools after a prolonged break, it is common for colds and similar viral infections to circulate. In many cases, children will be well enough to attend school and continue their learning with little or no interruption to their education. In other cases, for instance where they have quite a heavy cold, they may need to take a day or two off to recover.

This is not the case for children and young people with potential COVID-19 symptoms, they are required to self-isolate and seek a test through [nhsinform.scot](https://nhsinform.scot) or by calling 0800 028 2816.

In order to ensure your children do not miss out on their education, it is important to be clear about how COVID-19 symptoms differ from those of other infections that we normally see circulating at this time of year.

## COVID-19 Symptoms

It is important that all of us – including those who make up the community around a school - are vigilant for the symptoms of COVID-19 and understand what actions we should take if someone develops them, either at school or at home.

The main symptoms to be aware of are:

- new continuous cough
- fever/high temperature
- loss of, or change in, sense of smell or taste



If a young person or a child in your care develops any of the above symptoms, they should self-isolate and you should book them a test as soon as possible at [NHSinform.scot/test-and-protect](https://www.nhs.uk/inform-scot/test-and-protect), or by calling 0800 028 2816.

We recommend testing only for those with a continuous cough, fever, or loss of or change in the sense of taste or smell. The UK senior clinicians continue to keep the symptoms for case definition under review and will continue to use evidence to adjust these if it becomes necessary.

It is essential that people who have COVID-19 symptoms, or who share a household with someone who has symptoms, do not attend school, nursery or other childcare settings, and must self-isolate along with all members of their household. If the test is negative, self-isolation can end for everyone. If the test is positive, Test and Protect will give you further advice.

### **Cold-like symptoms**

**If, however, your child does not have symptoms of COVID-19 but has other cold-like symptoms, such as a runny nose, they do not need to be tested and they and you do not need to self-isolate. Your child can go to school if fit to do so.**

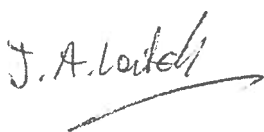
The Scottish Government appreciates the huge effort being made by parents, carers and school staff to ensure the risk of COVID-19 is minimised and to support children's education.

### **Further information**

For further advice please visit the Parent Club website at:  
[www.parentclub.scot](https://www.parentclub.scot)

or

[www.nhsinform.scot](https://www.nhsinform.scot)



Professor Jason Leitch  
**National Clinical Director**  
Scottish Government