BRACKENAGH WEST PRIMARY SCHOOL
22 Church Road
Kilkeel, Co Down
BT34 4QB

CONFIRMED CASE OF COVID-19

If you are informed of a confirmed case of COVID-19 in your child's class, the Public Health Agency (PHA) Contact Tracing Service will contact the families of those pupils who may need to take a test and self-isolate. We do not need everyone in the class to stay at home, but we do advise that they take a lateral flow test before returning to school.

The guidance states that:

Where a case of confirmed COVID-19 (Coronavirus) has been reported in a person with links to a school setting, all close contacts of the case who need to take specific actions with regard to testing and self-isolation will be identified, contacted and advised by the Public Health Agency (PHA) Contact Tracing Service.

If you are contacted by PHA Contact Tracing Service, please follow the guidance that they will provide. Information on the latest self-isolation requirements can be found on NI Direct at www.nidirect.gov.uk/articles/coronavirus-covid-19-self-isolating.

The most common symptoms of Covid-19 are recent onset of:

- new continuous cough and/or
- high temperature and/or
- a loss of, or change in, normal sense of taste or smell (anosmia)

Should your child develop one, or more, of these symptoms, please book a PCR test, even if an earlier one was negative. Your child should stay at home and self-isolate until you receive the result of the test. If it is negative they can return to school.

Please see www.nidirect.gov.uk/articles/coronavirus-covid-19-self-isolating for guidance on whether other people in your household also need to self-isolate while you are waiting for your child's PCR result. Tests can be arranged at your closest testing site or by requesting a postal kit which will be sent to your home address.

You can choose whichever option is more convenient for you. Going for a COVID test is one of the reasons your child can leave home during the self-isolation period, however, they should not use public transport. Please order a postal test if you do not have private transport to a test site.

Further Information

For further information, please see:
* The NI Direct website: https://www.nidirect.gov.uk/articles/coronavirus-covid-19-self-isolating
* The Public Health Agency website www.publichealth.hscni.net/covid-19-coronavirus
* Or contact NHS 111.

If your child feels unwell and you are worried about their symptoms or about anyone else in the home, please contact your GP. Thank you for your co-operation in this matter.

Sincerely,

M J Peacock
(Principal)