

15 October 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

**RE: Suffolk's actions to reduce COVID-19 transmission**

We have been working closely with Mr Green at your child's school to support in managing COVID-19 cases and implement various control measures in response to the increasing case rate in the local area. Copleston will, at the request of Suffolk County Council's Health Protection Team be implementing the following control measures with immediate effect until the 31 October 2021 [unless otherwise advised by Public Health]:

- Staff will limit their movement around classrooms
- Pupils and staff who feel unwell are asked to isolate and obtain a PCR test
- Siblings of pupils attending Copleston High School who test positive for COVID-19 either by LFT or PCR are asked not to attend their education setting for 3 days and obtain a PCR test from the 3<sup>rd</sup> day

We understand these measures will be challenging for families and we will seek to remove these as soon as appropriate to do so. Case rates in the local area are high and increasing, and it is necessary to introduce these additional local actions to protect Copleston High School from a significant outbreak and the wider community.

**From the 15 October the measures outlined below will apply to siblings of pupils who test positive:**

- Siblings aged between 4 and 18 years (unless exempt - see below) are now advised to stay at home when a sibling they live with, who attends Copleston High School and test positive for COVID-19 either by LFT or PCR.
- All siblings who live in the same house as the positive case [student], who attends Copleston High School should get a PCR test from the third day following the positive PCR. If this comes back as negative and the siblings feel well, those siblings can return to their education setting.
- If any sibling develops symptoms, they should isolate immediately and take another PCR test.
- If any sibling tests positive, they should isolate immediately.

Children and young people exempt from this advice are able to continue to attend their education setting if any of the following apply;

- 12 – 18 year-olds who have had at least one dose of the vaccine more than 14 days ago
- Anyone aged between 4 – 18 who has tested positive for COVID-19 themselves via a PCR test within the past 90 days and has completed their isolation
- Those who are medically exempt from vaccination as determined by their clinician

Any parents or carers who still want their child to continue to attend school have the right to send their child into the setting. In these situations, the child or young person should produce a negative PCR test and continue to undertake a daily Lateral Flow Test for four days and attend school only if negative.

Anyone who develops symptoms of COVID-19, or feels unwell, should continue to get a PCR test and stay at home. Individuals informed by Test & Trace to isolate should remain at home for the time advised.

Suffolk is supporting education settings and has developed an enhanced local version of the Contingency Framework. It provides a range of step-up and step-down measures that settings can consider implementing depending on the assessed severity of the COVID-19 situation.

**These additional control measures will be in place from 15 October 2021 until 31 October 2021**

We thank you for your continued support in helping to keep the people of Suffolk safe and well as we all learn to live with COVID-19.

Yours Sincerely



**Stuart Keeble**  
Director of Public Health



**Allan Cadzow**  
Director for Children and Young People's  
Services