



# Guru Nanak Sikh Multi Academy Trust Ltd

Incorporating:  
GNSA Secondary, Primary & Nanaksar Primary School

Guru Nanak Sikh Academy  
Founder – Sant Baba Amar Singh Ji

Dear Parent/Carers,

20th September 2020

## COVID Update

Thank you for your overwhelming support over the last couple of days in hearing of a confirmed case in our school.

We can confirm that 2 siblings who were not attending school at the time have tested positive with COVID-19. Advice from Public Health states that one sibling, who had not been in for over a week poses no risk to the school community and the other sibling poses a minimal risk only to those they would have been in close contact with.

Close contact is defined by Public Health England as anyone who has had;

- Face to face contact of a meter or less with/without precautions (with a known positive case)
- Been coughed or sneezed on (directly by a known positive case)
- A face to face conversation of less than a meter (without precautions this is for any duration of time)
- Any skin to skin contact
- Contact within a meter or 2 meters for a duration of 15 mins or more

When considering close contact the following are key;

- Physical touch (did the person physically touch you at all anywhere and therefore increase the risk of transferring the virus to you)
- Proximity (the closer you are to an infected individual (particularly without PPE) increases the possible risk to pass on or receive the virus via droplets)
- Duration (the time you were close to someone - the longer the time the increase in risk and chance of droplets transferring from one person to the next)

All of our internal contact tracing is based on our regimented seating plans, timetable of each child and staff members day, calendar events and proximity and duration transfer shared space areas. All of this is as much as feasibly possible, taken into account when assessing with the support of Public Health England who is at risk following any reported positive case. Such measures also ensure that the School can then remain open for all those outside of the reported close contact identification.

We followed our internal protocol and determined staff and students who needed to self isolate and then informed our whole school community accordingly. In this case the following was enacted;



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1. Information about a confirmed case arrived mid morning on Friday 18th September.
2. Fact checking takes place and the case is confirmed by parents as the child had not been attending school for 3 days with non COVID related illness. At the same time seating plans and the close contact calendars were being collected to assess possible risks to others.
3. At the same time we called the dedicated Department of education Public Health Hotline and internally completed our close contact tracing for the positive case student. All close contacts are regularly held for all staff and students according to timetables, calendar arrangements, seating plans and approved events.
4. All close contacts (students and staff) safely gathered and spoken with to verify proximity and duration.
5. Identified close contacts that fall under the Public Health guidance identified to be sent home and told to self isolate for a period of 14 days from the date of the positive case test result. All close contacts cannot return until the 14 days have expired regardless if they personally receive a negative test - this is to allow for the incubation and infectious period to pass. If any of the close contacts develop symptoms they have been advised to call 119 directly and arrange for a test. If they test positive 119 will advise them and their households and a further period of isolation may be necessary for the individual and their household.
6. As the original case student had been absent the deep cleaning protocol remains in line with the daily deep clean with no additional measures necessary as over 3 days had passed since the positive case had been present in school.
7. Once all close contacts and their families are supported and informed we begin the process to inform the School Community.
8. We plan the education of the close contacts students from home and monitor their welfare and wellbeing needs in case of any further spread of positive cases.
9. All measures reviewed with further updates to and from Public Health England.

Thank you for your support

Stay Safe

Stay Well

Yours sincerely,

Mr A. D'Onofrio

Vice Principal

20/09/2020