

Letter from Salford's Director of Public Health

16 June 2021

Dear Parent or Carer

Re: Isolation of COVID-19 cases and their contacts

Across the city there has been a sharp increase in the number of cases of COVID-19 weeks which are particularly high in unvaccinated age groups. Salford now has the highest case rate in Greater Manchester and the 7th highest in the country. Many of our schools currently have bubbles closed due to COVID, with very many children isolating due to being a contact of a positive case.

Due to the urgency of the situation, I am writing to remind young people, parents and carers that all cases and their contacts must self-isolate immediately if they test positive or they are notified that they are a contact of a positive case. As this is the root cause of transmission, people who do not isolate straight away are putting other people at risk and they are breaking the law and liable to be fined.

We have received several queries regarding self-isolation what you are meant to do and what you cannot do. When they are self-isolating, this means your child cannot go outside of the house (unless in your garden) other family members (outside your household) cannot visit and the child cannot see friends.

Contacts of positive cases must isolate. Other members of the household who are not contacts of the case do not need to isolate unless someone in the household has tested positive. You will find more information on the NHS website.

www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/self-isolation-and-treatment/when-to-self-isolate-and-what-to-do/

We are urging schools and the wider community to do their bit to help protect more vulnerable members of our families and the community, and so we can bring the rates back down for the easing of restrictions faster. By taking up the rapid testing and by testing when unwell, you will be helping to isolate the virus. Please can I also take this opportunity to remind parents to social distance when dropping and collecting children from school.

If you have any queries or need advice regarding self-isolation or loss of earnings, you can ring the Spirit of Salford on 0800 952 1000. You may be eligible for a Test and Trace support payment if you cannot work from home while undertaking caring responsibilities and you will lose income or face financial hardship. You can find out more on the council website www.salford.gov.uk/benefits/test-and-trace-support-payments/my-child-is-having-to-isolate/

There is a weekly updated message on the council website that you may find helpful. www.salford.gov.uk/coronaviruslevel

Yours faithfully,



Dr Muna Abdel Aziz
Director of Public Health for Salford