Strategic Policy, Performance and Population



Office of the Medical Officer of Health

19-21 Broad Street | St Helier Jersey | JE2 3RR

Monday, 7 June 2021

Dear parents/carers/students and the education community,

I would like to thank everyone across our school, college and nursery community and all students and parents for playing their part to ensure the risk of Covid-19 is minimised and to support children and young people's education.

I would like to remind everyone of some important health advice to be aware of and would like to encourage parents and carers to continue to discuss this information with their children and young people.

Covid-19 Symptoms

It is important that all of us – including those who make up the school, college and nursery communities, are vigilant for the symptoms of Covid-19 and understand what action you should take if someone develops them, either at school or at home.

It is essential that pupils who have Covid-19 symptoms do not attend school, college, nursery or other childcare settings and must self-isolate with all members of their household.

The three main symptoms of Covid-19 to be aware of are:

- New continuous cough
- Fever/high temperature
- Change or loss of smell and/or taste

If a young person or a child in your care develops any of the three main symptoms above they should self-isolate and you should call the coronavirus helpline on 0800 735 5566 as soon as possible to get advice and arrange a test. Diarrhoea and vomiting can also be a feature of Covid-19 and are more common in children than adults. Further information on Covid-19 symptoms can be found <u>here</u>.

Returning after off-island travel

Parents and staff should consult the <u>safer travel guidance</u> before travelling off-island.

No student should return to college or education setting if any of the following apply:

• The student is subject to a period of isolation

• Any member of the student's household is subject to a period of isolation for any reason (unless the isolating person can isolate completely separately from all other household members)

• Anyone in their household, or anyone they have travelled with, is awaiting the result of a Day 0 test

From 7 June children who have not yet reached the age of 18 are classified as a green arrival if they have either a green or amber travel history and therefore should follow the relevant safer travel guidance for green arrivals e.g. PCR tests (for those aged 11-17 years) on arrival and Day 8 and isolate until they have a negative Day 0 result. Children under 11 are not required to register for travel or undergo PCR testing.

Group travel of under 18 years e.g. college, clubs and organisations is not recommended to amber regions. Clubs should not be inviting visiting teams from amber regions.

Travel to red areas is strongly discouraged.

I appreciate the huge efforts being made by parents, carers, students, school, college and nursery staff who continue to follow the public health guidelines which helps to keep our community safe.

Yours sincerely,

Dr Ivan Muscat MBE

Acting Medical Officer of Health