

Loreto Grammar School

Confirmed COVID-19 cases in Loreto Grammar School

The Public Health Agency has been notified of a number of confirmed cases of COVID-19 in the Loreto Grammar School community. The Public Health Agency has worked closely with the school principal to review all the cases and undertake a risk assessment. All those who were in close contact with any of the cases in the school have been identified and advised to self-isolate and arrange a COVID test.

We are satisfied that the actions taken by the school mean the ongoing risk of further cases has been reduced and at this stage no further action is required. The school can continue to operate.

We will keep the situation under review and will be in regular contact with the school. I would like to thank the principal for all her work to ensure all cases were notified to PHA and contact traced very quickly.

As you are aware COVID-19 is present in the community across Northern Ireland. Whether in school or outside it is very important that we all remember the things we can do to help reduce the risk of spreading the infection including:

- Wear a face covering when appropriate
- If you go out, stay 2 metres (6ft) away from other people.
- Avoid touching your face and wash your hands as soon as you get home.
- You can spread the virus even if you don't have symptoms
- Get a COVID vaccine as soon as you are offered one

You should also be aware of the symptoms of COVID-19 the most common symptoms are recent onset of:

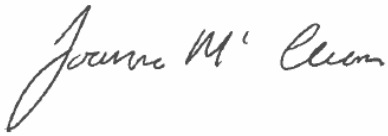
- new continuous cough and/or
- high temperature and/or
- a loss of, or change in, normal sense of taste or smell (anosmia)

If your child, or anyone in your household, develops any of these symptoms, your whole household must remain at home and not go to work, school or public areas. You should arrange testing for the person who has developed symptoms. Tests can be booked at www.nhs.uk/ask-for-a-coronavirus-test. When the result is known further advice will be available.

Improving Your Health and Wellbeing

For further information, please see the Public Health Agency website <https://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.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Joanne M' Cleen". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Dr Joanne McClean
Consultant in Public Health Medicine

