



Our Ref: NM/CC
4 October 2020

Dear Parents

We have been advised by Public Health that there has been a confirmed case of COVID-19 within the school. This is our first confirmed case and it is in year 7.

We are continuing to monitor the situation and are working closely with Public Health. This letter is to inform you of the current situation and provide advice on how to support your child. Please be reassured that for most people, coronavirus (COVID-19) will be a mild illness.

The school remains open and providing your child remains well they can continue to attend the school as normal. We will keep this under review.

38 year 7 students have been asked to self-isolate and will return to school on Friday 16th October. The reason for this decision is that the identified children were either in class with the student or have been traced as being in direct contact with the student in the days prior to them testing positive. Work will be set for these students via Edulink and Google Classroom from Monday 5th October.

Public Health England have been clear in their advice and have said that there is no need to send the remainder of the year group home at this stage. The students who are isolating do not need to seek a Covid test unless they develop symptoms. Our arrangements during guidance time have ensured that the student had not come into direct contact with students in any other year group. This decision will be kept under daily review.

Direct contact refers to:

- *face to face within 1 metre for any length of time*
- *skin to skin contact*
- *someone you coughed on*
- *contact within 1 metre for one minute or longer*

This is a timely opportunity to reiterate our school rules / systems. We would like you to focus on the wearing of clean regularly washed facemasks when inside and moving around buildings; the keeping to your year group bubbles during breaks and when moving around the school and keeping a distance of 2 metres from one another whenever possible.

What to do if your child develops symptoms of COVID 19

If your child develops any symptoms of COVID-19, they should remain at home for at least **10 days** from the date when their symptoms appeared. Anyone with symptoms will be eligible for testing and this can be arranged via <https://www.nhs.uk/ask-for-a-coronavirus-test> or by calling 119.

All other household members who remain well must stay at home and not leave the house for 14 days.

The 14-day period starts from the day when the first person in the house became ill.

Household members should not go to work, school, nursery or public areas and exercise should be taken within the home.

Household members staying at home for 14 days will greatly reduce the overall amount of infection the household could pass on to others in the community

If your child has symptoms, try and keep them as far away from other members of your household as possible. It is especially important that they stay away from anyone who is clinically vulnerable or clinically extremely vulnerable with whom you share a household.

Symptoms

The most common symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19) are recent onset of:

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

For most people, coronavirus (COVID-19) will be a mild illness.

If your child or anyone in the household does develop symptoms, you can seek advice from NHS 111 at <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/check-if-you-have-coronavirus-symptoms/> or by phoning 111.

How to stop COVID-19 spreading

There are things you can do to help reduce the risk of you and anyone you live with getting ill with COVID-19

Do

- wash your hands with soap and water often – do this for at least 20 seconds
- use hand sanitiser gel if soap and water are not available
- wash your hands as soon as you get home
- cover your mouth and nose with a tissue or your sleeve (not your hands) when you cough or sneeze
- put used tissues in the bin immediately and wash your hands afterwards

Further Information

Further information is available at <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/>

Yours sincerely



Neil S Morris
Headteacher