

11 March 2021

Dear Parent/Carer

I hope you and your family are well and your child has had a successful return to school.

I am writing to inform you that we have today been notified that a student in Year 7 and Year 9 have tested positive for Covid-19. In line with Public Health guidance, they have now entered a period of isolation.

Having completed our track and trace process and in line with public health guidance all those who have been identified as potential close contacts have also been contacted and are now self-isolating for a 10 day period.

All other students, who are well enough and are not currently self-isolating should continue to attend school as normal.

Whilst I understand these are challenging times for us all please be assured that we continue to follow all government and local authority guidance. As you know we have enhanced hygiene, hand washing and cleaning regimes to ensure the risk of transmission is reduced. We have also asked students and staff to maintain social distancing requirements throughout the day, introduced the use of face coverings and changed the school day to minimise movement across our site to keep students and staff safe.

Please find attached a further copy of the guidance on what to do if your child develops symptoms, along with advice on what we can all do to stop the spread of this virus which I hope is helpful.

Can I thank you for your continued support during these difficult times and please do not hesitate to contact me should you wish to discuss this or any other school based issue further.

Yours faithfully



Richard Williman
Headteacher

What to do if your child develops symptoms of COVID 19

If your child develops symptoms of COVID-19, they must not come to school and 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 10 days. This includes anyone in your 'Support Bubble'.

Further information is available at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-stay-at-home-guidance/stay-at-home-guidance-for-households-with-possible-coronavirus-covid-19-infection>

The 10-day period starts from the day when the first person in the house became ill.

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

If you require help with buying groceries, other shopping or picking up medication, or walking a dog, you should ask friends or family. Alternatively, you can order your shopping online and medication by phone or online.

Household members staying at home for 10 days will greatly reduce the overall amount of infection the household could pass on to others in the community

If you are able, move any vulnerable individuals (such as the elderly and those with underlying health conditions) out of your home, to stay with friends or family for the duration of the home isolation period.

Symptoms

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

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

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

If your child does develop symptoms, you can seek advice from the nhs.uk website at <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/check-if-you-have-coronavirus-symptoms/>. If you are concerned about your child's symptoms, or they are worsening you can seek advice from NHS 111 at <https://111.nhs.uk/> 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/>