

1 July 2021

Dear Parents/Carers

I hope you and your family are well and continue to stay safe

As you may be aware we have in recent days been notified of a number of positive Covid-19 cases across our school community. In keeping with national guidance all those who have either tested positive or been identified as a potential close contact through our track and trace process are self-isolating and I am grateful to you all for the support we have had when having to ask students to isolate this year.

I am also extremely grateful for the support you have given at those times when I have asked year groups to work remotely, and I hope that our online provision of 'live' lessons when this happens has been helpful. Can I extend a particular thanks to parents/carers of Year 9 students who are currently working remotely, and I look forward to welcoming your child back to school next Tuesday, 6 July 2021.

What we are seeing, as we are nationally is a rising rate of transmission across local communities and particularly within the younger age group. As a result, I thought it would be helpful to share with you again a further copy (see below) on what to do if your child develops symptoms, as well as what we can all do to stop the spread of this virus.

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 as well as twice weekly lateral flow testing and changed the school day to minimise movement across our site to keep students and staff safe.

As we have throughout this pandemic the best thing we can do as a school community is to continue to ensure that all our risk controls are consistently followed and that we support each other to do so.

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

Kind regards



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/>