



16th October 2020

Dear Parents

We have been advised that there has been a confirmed case of COVID-19 within the school.

We know that you may find this concerning but we are continuing to monitor the situation and are working with Public Health England. 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 staff or students who have been in close contact with the individual who has tested positive for coronavirus (COVID-19), will receive a letter informing them that they must stay at home for 14 days from their last point of contact.

Students and staff are being identified as close contacts if they meet the NHS guidance. This guidance on close contacts is given below.

A 'contact' is a person who has been close to someone who has tested positive for COVID-19 anytime from 2 days before the person was symptomatic up to 10 days from onset of symptoms (this is when they are infectious to others). For example, a contact can be:

- *people who spend significant time in the same household as a person who has tested positive for COVID-19*
- *sexual partners*
- *a person who has had face-to-face contact (within one metre), with someone who has tested positive for COVID-19, including:*
 - *being coughed on*
 - *having a face-to-face conversation within one metre*
 - *having skin-to-skin physical contact, or*
 - *contact within one metre for one minute or longer without face-to-face contact*
- *a person who has been within 2 metres of someone who has tested positive for COVID-19 for more than 15 minutes*
- *a person who has travelled in a small vehicle with someone who has tested positive for COVID-19 or in a large vehicle or plane near someone who has tested positive for COVID-19*

*Where an interaction between 2 people has taken place through a Perspex (or equivalent) screen, this would **not** be considered sufficient contact, provided that there has been no other contact such as any of those indicated above.*



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Contacts of a person who has tested positive for COVID-19 need to self-isolate at home because they are at risk of developing symptoms themselves in the next 14 days and could spread the virus to others before the symptoms begin.

The school remains open for all year groups and your child should continue to attend as normal if they remain well, unless they receive a personalised letter to the contrary.

Guidance from NHS on a positive Covid-19 test:

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 14 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 14-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, 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 14 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)



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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

- 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/>

Parents are asked to continue to reinforce good hygiene measures, and social distancing expectations, with their children.

I am sure you will join me in wishing a full and speedy recovery to the individual concerned.

Yours faithfully

D J Gray
Headteacher



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