

13 November 2020



Dear Parents/Carers

We have today been made aware of a student from Year 7 who has tested positive for Covid-19. As a result and upon careful consideration and advice from the dedicated Department for Education Covid Support Team, **all students in Year 7 must now self-isolate for 14 days and are not to return to school until Thursday 26 November.**

We appreciate that you may find this concerning, but can assure you that, as a school, we have a strict regime in place to provide a clean and safe environment for our student and staff community.

We have taken this action as a precautionary step – we are continuing to monitor the situation and are working closely with Public Health England. The school remains open for Years 9 to 13 and providing your child remains well they can continue to attend school as normal. We will keep this under review. This letter is to inform you of the current situation.

The following information was set out in my letter of 8 November, but is repeated below to ensure clarity in these challenging times.

Please see advice and guidance below on how best to support your child should they develop Covid-19 symptoms.

What to do if your child develops symptoms of Covid-19

If your child develops symptoms of Covid-19, they should remain at home for at least 10 days from the date when their symptoms appeared. They **MUST NOT** come to school.

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.

In the event of a positive test, all other household members, including anyone in your 'support bubble' who remains well, must stay at home and not leave the house for 14 days. They do not need to be tested unless symptoms occur.

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.

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.

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>

Symptoms of Covid-19

The most common symptoms of coronavirus (Covid-19) are the 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 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.

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

Thank you for your ongoing support and understanding.

Yours sincerely



Tracey Savage
Headteacher