

Our ref: ljm/KV/Correspondence

14 September 2020

Dear Parent/Carer

Re: Single case - Advice to Parents

There has been a positive case of coronavirus in your child's school bubble. Children and staff within the bubble have been sent home to isolate while we identify who was, and who wasn't a close contact and we will be in touch soon to confirm what action you may need to take. Public Health England are impressed with our risk assessment and the actions we are taking to keep our students and staff safe. We intend to be ready to welcome Year 12s, who have not been told to self-isolate, back to college on Wednesday 16 September. We will confirm this tomorrow.

Before we welcomed the children back in September we formed a number of bubbles across the school to help us maintain groups of staff and children that do not mix. School bubbles make it quicker and easier in the event of a positive case to identify those who may need to self-isolate and keep that number as small as possible.

Public Health England are encouraging schools who experience a positive coronavirus test result amongst staff or children to focus on identifying which children and staff have had **close contact** with the confirmed case and asking them to self-isolate for 14 days while allowing other children/staff from the bubble to return to school.

Close contact means:

- Face to face contact with an infected individual for any length of time, within 1 metre, including being coughed on, a face to face conversation, or unprotected physical contact (skin-to-skin)
- Extended close contact (within 1 to 2 metres for more than 15 minutes) with an infected individual

We are currently identifying close contacts of the individual in our school who has tested positive.

If we identify your child as a close contact they will be required to self-isolate for a full 14 days. The rest of your household does not need to self-isolate unless any member of the household develops symptoms of coronavirus.

The main symptoms of coronavirus are:

- **a high temperature** – this means you feel hot to touch on your chest or back (you do not need to measure your temperature)

- **a new, continuous cough** – this means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours (if you usually have a cough, it may be worse than usual)
- **a loss or change to your sense of smell or taste** – this means you've noticed you cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal

Most people with coronavirus have at least 1 of these symptoms.

If anyone has any of the main symptoms of coronavirus they should:

1. Get a test to check if they have coronavirus as soon as possible. Visit <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/testing-and-tracing/get-a-test-to-check-if-you-have-coronavirus/> or call 111 / 119.
2. Stay at home and do not have visitors until they get the test result – they should only leave home to have a test. Anyone they live with and anyone in their support bubble, must also stay at home until they get the test result.

If we identify your child as **not being a close contact**, they will be allowed to return to school immediately.

We will be in touch as soon as possible to confirm what action you need to take

Yours sincerely



Mr K. Vernon
Head Teacher