

5 November 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

We have been advised by a parent that there has been a confirmed case of COVID-19 within Yr 7. As a consequence of this, we have contacted the parents of a small number of students who have been identified as having potentially been in close contact, asking them to self isolate for 14 days. All other Yr 7 students will continue as normal in school. Those students that have been identified will not return to school until Thursday 19 November. All other year groups are unaffected.

We are continuing to monitor the situation and are working closely 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, COVID-19 will be a mild illness.

The school remains open to all year groups, and providing your child remains well, they can continue to attend school as normal. We will keep this under review.

It is of vital importance that if a household member thinks they may have coronavirus symptoms then their children and wider household members must self-isolate. This avoids the risk of wider transmission occurring. If a test result comes back positive then all household members must continue to follow isolation guidance and inform the school.

**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. Anyone with symptoms will be eligible for testing and a test should be arranged immediately by booking online through the NHS testing and tracing for coronavirus website, or ordered by telephone via NHS 119.

All other household members who remain well must stay at home and not leave the house for 14 days.

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 household members do not stay at home as advised then they risk wider transmission of coronavirus, resulting in schools having to request other members of our school community to self-isolate.

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 to, 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 important symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19) are recent onset of any of the following:

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

For most people, COVID-19 will be a mild illness. However, if you have any of the symptoms above you must stay at home and arrange to have a test to see if you have COVID-19 – go to testing to arrange.

If your child or anyone in the household does develop symptoms, you can seek advice from <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/check-if-you-have-coronavirus-symptoms/> 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 is available at <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/>

Yours sincerely,



Domenic Volpe  
Headteacher