



MAIDEN ERLEGH

SCHOOL

Headteacher: Mr P. Gibson
MSc (Educational Leadership), BA (Economics)

Silverdale Road, Earley,
Reading, RG6 7HS
0118 926 2467
MESoffice@maidenerleghtrust.org
www.maidenerleghschool.co.uk
@MaidenErleghSch

16 November 2020

Dear Parent/Guardian

Notification of positive COVID-19 test result – Year 11

I am writing to inform you that I was notified yesterday evening of a Year 11 student testing positive for COVID-19. The test was taken on Saturday when the student developed symptoms. We, of course, wish all of those in our community diagnosed with COVID-19 a speedy recovery.

We have started contact tracing for this student, and will inform you if your child needs to isolate later today once this process is complete. Please note, these letters will be sent out by the end of the day. These students will need to isolate until the date stated in our personalised letter. All Year 11 students will continue with our remote learning programme and will return to school on Monday 23 November. I will be contacting The Department for Education, Public Health England and Public Health at the Local Authority today to discuss the situation and to confirm the action we have taken.

Please also note, if your child is already isolating and you receive another isolation letter, they will need to isolate until the latest date.

I understand the frustration this is causing and we are doing all we can to stop the spread of coronavirus within the school. Many schools in the local area are seeing an increase in the number of cases and, as a result, some have reverted to rota systems or collapsing bubbles. My absolute focus is ensuring that students and families are safe and this will continue to be at the heart of any decisions I make.

Please continue to note the following:

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/askfor-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-19stay-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 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 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)

For most people, coronavirus (COVID-19) will be a mild illness.

If your child or anyone in the household 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.

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/>

Yours sincerely



Mr P Gibson
Headteacher