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24 May 2021

Dear Parent/Guardian

Notification of a positive COVID-19 case in Year 11 and 12

Following on from my email over the weekend, I am writing to you to formally acknowledge that we have been advised that there has been one confirmed cases of COVID-19 within the Year 11 bubble and one within the Year 12 bubble. We wish them a speedy recovery and hope that any symptoms are mild.

I am sorry to have to share this news with you but I must ensure we do all we can as a school community to tackle the spread of COVID-19. All potential contacts have been traced and contacted.

For Year 12 students, we will be writing to you by the end of the day to confirm the Year 12 assessment arrangements.

Please can I ask that all students (who have consented) continue to complete a Lateral Flow Test twice per week. Please note a negative result will not reduce the isolation period for those who are isolating. If your child develops symptoms they must have a PCR test as LFTs are not sufficient, they are for asymptomatic cases only.

I really must emphasise the points below, it has been sometime since we have had a positive case and following this guidance will help keep us all safe and reduce the spread of COVID-19. It is also important to note that whilst this guidance is for when a child falls sick, the same applies to other members of the household and students should remain off school if someone in the home develops symptoms and whilst they await the test result.

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 day after their symptoms appeared. Anyone with symptoms should seek a test 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 10 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 10-day period starts from the day after 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 only.

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 10 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