

12 November 2020

Dear parent/carer

We have been made aware that two members of our academy community have tested positive for COVID-19. We are working closely with Public Health England to follow the guidance and ensure we take the appropriate measures.

The small number of children and staff who have been in direct, prolonged contact with the individuals who have tested positive for COVID-19 have been contacted directly and will be staying at home for 14 days.

For all other pupils, the academy remains open and **your child must continue to attend if they are well.**

We know that you will find this concerning, however as a result of the many robust safety measures the academy has in place, it is safe to remain open to all other pupils. This letter is to inform you of the current situation and provide advice on how to support your child and wider family.

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

If your child develops symptoms of COVID-19, they must not come to the academy and should remain at home for at least **10 days** from the date their symptoms appeared. **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>.

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'. **You do not need to get tested unless you display symptoms.** Further guidance 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 14-day period starts from the day when the first person in the house became ill. Household members should not go to work, childcare setting, school, college 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 online or by phone.

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

Symptoms of COVID-19

The most common symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19) are 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 you or 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.

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



Mr Ged Rae
Principal

