

Friday, 2nd July 2021

Dear Parents,

There have been confirmed cases of coronavirus in the school. We have followed the national guidance and your child has been identified as a close contact.

We need to ask that your child now stay at home and self-isolate from their last attendance at school for **10 days**. Your child was in school and a close contact on Wednesday, 30th June and they must **now self-isolate until Saturday, 10th July**. Saturday, 10th July will be the last day of their isolation and it remains important that they still self-isolate on this day. As a result of this, your child will not be able to return to school until Monday, 12th July 2021.

Here is national guidance on what to do whilst self-isolating:

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/testing-and-tracing/nhs-test-and-trace-if-youve-been-in-contact-with-a-person-who-has-coronavirus/>

We are monitoring the situation, working closely with Public Health.

We all need to remain vigilant by watching out for symptoms of coronavirus. For most people coronavirus will be a mild illness. The symptoms are:

- a new continuous cough,
- and/or high temperature
- and a loss of, or change in, normal sense of taste or smell.

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

Getting a PCR test for a close contact of a case?

It is now also possible for close contacts to have a PCR test even where they do not have symptoms through [Get a free PCR test to check if you have coronavirus \(COVID-19\) - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#) or by calling 119. In some areas you may be encouraged to do this by your local authority or local health protection team.

Please note: if your child has a negative PCR test result this does not alter the self-isolation period as a contact. Close contacts should continue to self-isolate for 10 full days, as they could still become infectious and pass the infection onto others. Please make sure you read the full text message from NHS Test and Trace when receiving a negative result. This makes clear that you do not need to self-isolate **unless** 'you've been told to self-isolate because you've been in close contact with someone who tested positive' [Negative test result for coronavirus \(COVID-19\) - NHS \(www.nhs.uk\)](#).

What to do if your child develops symptoms or becomes unwell.

- Please remain alert to your child being unwell in this period. Although the top three symptoms above are more likely to be symptoms of Coronavirus, we have found that many children did not display the main three signs of Coronavirus; their symptoms could be a sore throat, or feeling unwell, or muscle aches and pains and headache.

- If your child develops symptoms of COVID-19, they should book a test immediately. This can be arranged via <https://www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test> or by calling 119.
- All other household members must isolate and not leave home until the result of the test.

If the test is positive,

- You will all need to isolate for 10 days. The 10-day period starts from the day when the first person in the house became ill.
- Your child should isolate for 10 days and until they are better and their temperature has returned to normal for at least 48 hours.
- Household members should not go to work, school or public areas and exercise should be taken within the home. Household members staying at home for 10 days (from the first day a household member displayed symptoms) will greatly reduce the spread of the virus.
- 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.

Should your child test positive then please contact the school to let them know.

If the test is negative

- If your child's test result is negative, as a close contact of a positive case they still need to isolate for 10 days, as the symptoms could be masking coronavirus incubating.
- Everyone in your household can stop isolating following the child's negative test unless they themselves develop symptoms.

How to stop COVID-19 spreading

As I'm sure you are all aware, the Delta variant is highly contagious and as such, we need to be extra vigilant.

There are things you can do to help reduce the risk of you and anyone you live with getting ill with COVID-19:

- 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

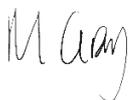
Further Information

Further information is available at

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/>

Please find attached our Remote Education information sheet for parents. Your child will now need to access their learning remotely, via Teams.

Best wishes,



Mary Gray
Head of School

