



9 October 2020

Dear Parents and Carers

### **Advice to All Parents - Single case**

Further to my letter that was sent out to all parents/carers regarding closure of the KS3 "bubble" in our Designated Specialist Provision (DSP), which is for twenty-four pupils with Special Educational Needs, I was notified at 3.15pm today that we have a single confirmed positive case of coronavirus (COVID-19) of a Sixth Form student that affects a small number of other students in Year 13.

The advice from Public Health England regarding students is not to close a whole "bubble" or Year Group where possible but to trace students who have been in proximity to the student who has tested positive. Those students who have been in close proximity to the student who has tested positive have been personally notified and a separate letter has been sent to them informing them that they need to self-isolate for a period of 14 days from when they last had contact in school with the student who has tested positive.

**The school remains open for all pupils in Years 7 to 13 and all pupils in these year groups should continue to attend if they remain well, unless they are in the Key Stage 3 bubble of the DSP or those in Year 13 who have been notified personally.**

We know that you may find this concerning, but 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, coronavirus (COVID-19) will be a mild illness.

The rest of this letter is the standard letter written by Public Health England; it provides advice and guidance in confirmed cases of COVID-19.

### **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/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'.

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 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 does develop symptoms, you can seek advice from the nhs.uk website at <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/check-if-you-have-coronavirus-symptoms/>. If you are concerned about your child's symptoms, or they are worsening you can seek advice from NHS 111 at <https://111.nhs.uk/> 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

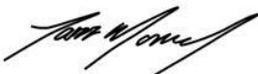
Do

- 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,



Ian Morrel

Headteacher