



16th November 2020

Dear Parents and Carers

I am writing to inform you that I have just been informed that another student in Year 8 has tested positive for coronavirus. This student was already self-isolating because of an earlier case in school. Any additional students identified as close contacts have been contacted and are self isolating.

I appreciate the current situation will undoubtedly cause some concern, but it is important that we handle the situation calmly, taking all reasonable and proportionate measures to ensure all students and staff remain safe.

There is standard advice from the Department for Education that is to be distributed in a letter to all parents in the event of a positive case at school. I am aware you have already received this advice but I am obliged to send it every time there is a positive case linked to school.

Advice to All Parents and Carers – In the Event of a Single Confirmed Case

We have been advised that there has been a confirmed case of COVID-19 within the school. We know that you may find this concerning but we are continuing to monitor the situation and we will be 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 small number of people who have been in close contact with the individual who has tested positive for coronavirus (COVID-19) will be asked to stay at home for 14 days.

The school remains open and your child should continue to attend as normal if they remain well.

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-coronavirustest> 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

- 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 do not hesitate to contact me via email (scleary@ladylumleys.net) should you have any concerns.

Yours sincerely



Stuart Cleary
Acting Headteacher