



St Katherine's School



11 October 2020

Dear Parent/Carer

We have been advised by Public Health England that there has been a confirmed case of COVID-19 within the school. After a detailed investigation and following advice from PHE and national guidance, we are taking the following action:

As your child is part of the Year 10 group bubble in which a positive case has been reported, they must stay at home and self-isolate until 23 October 2020 i.e. the end of term (this is 14 days after the reported contact). Therefore we plan to welcome Year 10 students back to school on Tuesday 3rd November.

Learning@Home

Importantly your child's education will continue as they self isolate. We will share an overview of the learning@Home for Year 10. Your child should continue to follow their timetable whilst at home, completing their work in their book and online as per the subject instructions on their google classroom. Your child can use apps such as [Scannable](#) in order to upload examples of their work to google classroom for their teachers to view and comment on where necessary.

If your child is well at the end of the 14 days period of self-isolation, then they can return to usual activities. **Other members of your household can continue normal activities provided your child does not develop symptoms within the 14 day self-isolation period.**

Whilst the Year group bubble are in isolation, you are **not** required to call our attendance line each day. **Please do contact us should your child develop symptoms.** Ensure you book a test and inform us of the result as soon as possible.

Please see the link to 'Guidance for contacts of people with confirmed coronavirus (COVID-19) infection who do not live with the person':

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/guidance-for-contacts-of-people-with-possible-or-confirmed-coronavirus-covid-19-infection-who-do-not-live-with-the-person>

What to do if your child develops symptoms of COVID 19

If your child develops symptoms of COVID-19, they 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.

People who do not have symptoms should not request a test unless this has been specifically requested by Public Health England or the local authority. In the case of a household member developing symptoms, 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'.

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 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.

Please see the link to the PHE 'Stay at Home' Guidance:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-stay-at-home-guidance/stay-at-home-guidance-for-households-with-possible-coronavirus-covid-19-infection>

Symptoms of COVID 19

The most common symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19) are recent onset of:

- new continuous cough and/or
- high temperature and/or
- 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 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

As you know, we have put extensive measures in place to ensure that our students and staff are as safe as possible as we have welcomed our young people back to school. Students have been very good at observing our revised control procedures over the first part of term. This confirmed case is an important reminder about why those procedures matter. It is a reminder that we all need to remain vigilant, both in school and in the wider community.

We will continue to remind students to:

- Go straight to their designated zone on arrival at school and at break and lunch time;
- Wash or sanitise hands regularly, including at the start and end of each lesson, before and after eating and going to the toilet
- Provide space for each other and avoid all close contact with pupils in other bubbles
- Wear their face covering properly inline with guidance, using a sealable bag and replacing the face covering if it becomes damp.
- Tissues and face coverings are to be deposited in the white flip lid bins in each room

We thank you for your support with these procedures.

Further Information

Further information is available at

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

We will keep you updated should we need to provide you with any further information. We are advised that this letter contains all the relevant COVID-19 guidance; if you have any further questions please contact Mr Maw (mawm@skdrive.org).

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Justin Humphreys', written in a cursive style.

Justin Humphreys
Headteacher