

22 October 2020

Dear Parents/Carers

Further to my correspondence yesterday evening regarding the confirmed case of Covid 19 in Year 8, we have this morning had a detailed conversation with the Department of Education Covid Help Team. During the call they have considered the full timeline of events regarding this case from the 7 October when symptoms first started. They commented on the 'unfortunate' and unusual circumstances surrounding this case, specifically in relation to the timeline and initial inconclusive test. They have provided us with the following clear advice:

- **Year 8 students and staff affected are no longer required to self isolate**
- **They are confident the required isolation period has elapsed;**
- **The student was absent from school during the infectious period from 8 October - 17 October**

We have, as a precautionary measure, arranged for the Year 8 block to be deep cleaned tomorrow, 23 October 2020 and look forward to welcoming Year 8 students back to school on Tuesday 3 November 2020. Please ensure your child engages with our Learning@Home timetable today and tomorrow, as detailed in the [letter yesterday evening](#).

These are challenging times for our community and we are grateful for your continued support as we navigate through the autumn and winter terms. We will continue to do all we can to minimise disruption to support the continuity of education for our whole community. It is important we only refer to facts when referring to any of these positive cases so we provide reassurance to all members of our community. Should you have any queries or wish to seek further clarification, please contact the school.

Our Covid messages and the importance of remaining vigilant continue to be vital to keep the full school functioning. A reminder of our key messages:

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.

Tightening up together

- **Hands** - washing and hand sanitising our hands more often - there are multiple hand sanitising stations in each block, hand sanitisers in each classroom and new stations on entry to the school are being installed for staff and students. [New NHS Hands Face Spade video](#).
- **Face** - the incorrect wearing and safe hygienic keeping of face coverings is a concern. We have reshared this video with students this week - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9Tv2BVN_WTk - and tried to help them understand the importance of wearing a face covering safely at all times

- **Space** - we are asking staff and students to give each other space throughout the day, including at the start and end of the day to protect our bubble structure.

I fully acknowledge the unfortunate disruption the events of the last 24 hours have caused our families. May I take this opportunity to wish you all a peaceful half term break.

Thank you for your continued cooperation and support.

Yours sincerely

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

Justin Humphreys
Headteacher