

Advice to Parents – Positive Covid Cases within School

Dear Parents/Carers,

We are writing to advise you that there has been a confirmed case of COVID-19 within Year 7 Year 8 and Y11.

We know that you may find this concerning, but we are continuing to monitor the situation closely. 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 school setting and all year groups remains open and your child should continue to attend as normal if they remain well. We encourage household members that are aged 11 and over to continue with twice weekly LFD testing to help identify cases promptly.

What to do if your child develops symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19) or tests positive for COVID-19

If your child develops symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19), they should get a PCR test and remain at home until the result is known. If negative, the child can end self-isolation and return to school; if positive, the child should isolate until at least 10 days after their symptoms appeared. Symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19) are a new, continuous cough, or a high temperature, or a loss / change in their normal sense of taste or smell (anosmia). If the child has a positive test result but do not have [symptoms](#), they should stay at home and self-isolate for 10 days from the date the positive test was taken. This isolation period will be extended if they go on to develop symptoms by counting 10 full days from the day following their symptom onset. Anyone with symptoms will be eligible for a PCR test (the normally available test type) and this can be arranged via [Get a free PCR test to check if you have coronavirus \(COVID-19\) - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#) or by calling 119.

Instructions for people who live in the same household as someone with COVID-19 (tested positive or symptomatic awaiting a test result)

From 16 August, [you will not be required to self-isolate if you are a contact of someone who has tested positive for COVID-19](#) and any of the following apply:

- you are fully vaccinated
- you are below the age of 18 years 6 months
- you have taken part in or are currently part of an approved COVID-19 vaccine trial
- you are not able to get vaccinated for medical reasons

In school we are following our COVID safe procedures closely which include:

- Ensuring good hygiene for everyone. This includes hand hygiene with frequent hands washing for all students and staff.
- Reminding students about respiratory hygiene and that 'catch it, bin it, kill it' approach continues to be very important.
- Maintaining a high standard of cleaning regimes. We have a thorough cleaning schedule in place to ensure that frequently touched surfaces are kept clean.
- Keeping occupied spaces well ventilated to ensure good airflow.
- Following public health advice on testing, self-isolation and managing confirmed cases of COVID-19.
- Keeping our assemblies small with only 2year groups meeting in the hall for assembly. This allows us to provide good spacing between students.
- Continuing to carefully manage the number of visitors in school.
- Continuing to have two sittings at lunch to reduce numbers in the hall and café.

If you have any concerns please contact Mr Mattie McCarthy or Mrs Lorraine Walton pastoral leads.

Yours sincerely,

Paul Walsh