



13th October 2020

Dear Parent/Carer

Positive Case of Coronavirus (COVID-19)

We have been made aware of a single member of the College VI Bubble who has tested positive for COVID-19. We know that you may find this concerning, but in line with the national guidance and following public health, I am writing to reassure you that there is no reason for your child to be absent from school. The very small number of students who have been in close contact with the individual who has tested positive have received a letter requiring them to stay at home for a period of self-isolation. Their household members and close contacts are able to continue normal activities. **The Collegiate remains open and your child should continue to attend as normal, if he/she remains well.**

As you know, we are currently operating in “bubbles” with staggered starts, finishes, breaks and lunches and with each “bubble” taught in separate areas of the school. Any shared facilities or resources are cleaned for different “bubbles”. All students wash or sanitise their hands on arrival at school and all touch points within the school are cleaned several times a day.

We realise that news of a positive case may cause some anxiety but, again, there is no reason for your child to absent from school. Please see below for further information and guidance. Thank you for your understanding and support.

Yours sincerely

Mr S Dey
Principal

What to do if your child develops symptoms of COVID-19

If your child develops symptoms of COVID-19, he/she 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. 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.

- 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/>