23rd June 2021

Dear Parents & Carers,

Advice for child to self-isolate

Our test and trace system has identified the possibility that there is a confirmed case of COVID-19 within our Year 8 group bubble. Please see below, the direct communication and advice from Public Health England.

Isolation advice

We have followed the national guidance and have identified that your child has been in close contact with the potential case. In line with the national guidance, your child now must stay at home and self-isolate until and including Friday 3rd July, providing they are symptom-free, they would then return to school on Monday 5th July. The length of isolation is dictated by the date of the last contact with the confirmed case, test dates and when symptoms develop.

This positive case has been confirmed by a PCR test. As a precautionary measure the latest guidance from Oldham council requests that all pupils who are identified as a contact of a positive COVID-19 case access PCR testing. This will help to identify different variants of concern and their spread. Even if this PCR test result is negative, your child must continue to self isolate for the full 10 days in line with government guidance. If you child tests positive please inform the school straight away.

You can book a free test online at www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test and click the box that states your local council has asked you to request a test. You can also book a test over the phone by calling 119.

Additional changes to the guidance in Oldham request that any pupils who do not feel well but do not have any of the three main symptoms below also order a PCR test.

If your child is well at the end of the 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 self-isolation period.

Please see the link to the PHE Staying at Home Guidance

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

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

If your child develops symptoms of COVID-19, you should organise for your child to be tested via the NHS online portal or by calling 119. Your household should isolate until you receive the test results giving the all clear.

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.

How to stop COVID-19 spreading

There are things you can do to help reduce the risk to 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 Flu vaccination

Further information

Further information is available at https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/

As you know, the health, safety and wellbeing of all of our young people is our top priority. We have extensive safety measures in place to mitigate against the risk of transmission. This situation serves as a reminder that we all need to remain vigilant, both in school and in the community, and follow the latest Government guidance.

I know that this is a lot of information to take on board. Details of our home learning are available on our website and students have been sent home with work also. If you have any questions or queries, please send these via our MCAS app. If you do not yet have access to the MCAS app, and you have a question, you can call the Academy, but please be aware that our phone lines may be busy due to the circumstances.

Please rest assured that we will keep you updated on the current situation.

Warm regards

Miss D Gobbi
Principal

Principal - Miss D Gobbi

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