

16th September 2020

To Parents/Carers of Year 10 Students

Dear Parent/Carer

We are writing to inform you that we have been notified of a **possible** case of coronavirus within your child's bubble. The individual concerned has been sent home to self-isolate and we have requested that they now book a test. This is in line with the national guidance issued by the Department for Education which states that *'When a child, young person or staff member develops symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19): a high temperature, new and persistent cough or a loss of, or change in, normal sense of taste or smell (anosmia), however mild, they should self-isolate for at least 10 days from when the symptoms started; or if they are not experiencing symptoms but have tested positive for coronavirus (COVID-19) they should self-isolate for at least 10 days starting from the day the test was taken.'*

Anyone who the individual lives with, or who forms part of their support bubble, must also isolate for 14 days unless the test result comes back negative.

At present, whilst we await the result of the test, your child should continue to attend school as normal providing they do not display the symptoms of temperature, persistent cough or loss of taste or smell.

What happens next?

Negative test result

Where the child, young person or staff member tests negative, they can return to school and members of their household/support bubble can end their period of self-isolation.

Positive test result

Where the child/member of staff tests positive, the rest of their 'bubble' should be sent home and advised to self-isolate for 14 days. Other members of their household/support bubble of that wider class or group do not need to self-isolate unless the child/member of staff they live with in that group subsequently develops symptoms.

All children and staff will have access to a test if they display symptoms of coronavirus, and are encouraged to get tested in this scenario. To book a test, visit <https://www.nhs.uk/ask-for-a-coronavirus-test> or phone 119.

As soon as we are notified of the outcome of the test, we will write to you and advise whether any further action is necessary.

In the meantime, we would like to take this opportunity to remind you of the steps that we can all take to minimise the risk of spreading infection. These simple measures are:

- 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.

Can I reassure you that you may receive a number of these letters over the next few weeks and I am very aware of the anxiety this will cause. We are optimistic that the vast majority of these will return negative results. However, we are not complacent and we will make sure we let you know as soon as possible of any positive results.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Simon Warburton', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Simon Warburton
Principal