Executive Principal: Primary Education: Mr S McCarthy BSc (Hons) NPQH
Principal: Mrs H Townsley BA (Hons)
Chair of Governors: Mr J Fyffe

8 February 2021

Dear Parents / Carers

Advice to all Parents - Further Case

We have been advised by Public Health England that there has been a further confirmed case of COVID-19 connected to the academy.

We know that you may find this concerning but we are continuing to monitor the situation and are working closely with the relevant bodies to implement the guidelines carefully and fully. 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 small number of children who have been in direct prolonged contact with the confirmed case will have received an individual letter and will be staying a home for 10 days.

The school remains open to vulnerable and keyworker children only and your eligible child should continue to attend if they remain well.

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 **must be tested.** This can be arranged via https://www.nhs.uk/ask-for-a-coronavirus-test or by calling 119.

All other household members who remain well, must stay at home and not leave the house for 10 days. This includes anyone in your 'Support Bubble'.

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

The 10-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.

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Household members staying at home for 10 days will greatly reduce the overall amount of infection the household could pass on to others in the community.

If you are able, 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.

Symptoms

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 or anyone in the household does develop symptoms, you can seek advice from NHS 111 at https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/check-if-you-have-coronavirus-symptoms/ 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. 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

We ask adults to wear facemasks when coming onto school premises. **Further to this, we urge you to follow all guidelines and restrictions carefully**. Because coronavirus is likely to be a mild illness for most people there are some who have expressed reluctance to abide by the lockdown restrictions. It is worth remembering that although we may not feel personally vulnerable, we are only a few steps away from others who are more vulnerable. **We have a duty of care to one another and we must act to look after others by abiding by the restrictions in full.** It would be unlawful not to follow the national lockdown restrictions.

Further Information

Please do keep school fully informed should your child develop any symptoms by calling us on 0113 733 0129 and further information is available at https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/.

Yours faithfully
H. C. Townsley
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Principal

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