

7th October 2020

Advice to All Parents / Carers – Confirmed case of Covid-19

Dear Parents/Carers,

It has been brought to my attention today that there has been a further confirmed case of COVID-19 within the school. The social distancing and other control measures we have put in place in school mean that this does not directly affect your child. These measures incorporate government and public health guidance.

The school remains open and your child should continue to attend if they remain well. If you have not received a letter identifying your child or children, then they have not been identified as a close contact and do not need to make any changes to their normal routine; they can continue to attend the Academy as normal.

With the number of cases in the Castleford area increasing, and to ensure that important information is not missed, if there is a confirmed case in the Academy we will in future only write directly to those parents/carers whose child/children need to self-isolate, or if there are wider concerns about the bubble or the Academy as a whole remaining open.

We know that you may find this concerning but we are continuing to monitor the situation and are working closely with Public Health England. 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.

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 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 14 days. This includes anyone in your 'Support Bubble'.

If any member of your household begins to develop symptoms, the rest of the household (including your child/children) must self-isolate for 14 days from the date of symptoms starting. Your child must not come to school, even if they have no symptoms themselves.

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 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, 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:

- A new continuous cough
- A high temperature
- A loss of, or change in, your 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

- 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/>

Yours sincerely,

L. Proctor

Miss L Proctor
Principal

Respect • Ambition • Bravery