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COVID UPDATE – Two Positive COVID cases in Year 9 in same tutor group and additional member of staff

Advice to All Parents and Carers

16th October 2020

Dear Parents / Carers,

We have had two additional student cases notified to us this morning. The students have been not been in school since Monday. We have completed contact tracing with the support of parents and have sent home 54 Year 9 students. The parents of the close contacts have been notified by letter.

We also have been notified that staff member that has tested positive today. They have not been in school this week. We are undertaking contact tracing but do not expect this to impact more widely on staff or students in school.

With all positive cases, if additional close contacts become known, we will inform them and ask them to self-isolate.

I have asked for all the rooms in school to be deep cleaned over the weekend. I know this will provide the school community with reassurance that risks are minimised. Additionally, I have asked to meet remotely with Public Health England and Bristol Local authority later today to see there any other additional measures we can take. The advice we have received all the way along from the Department of Education and Public Health England has confirmed that everything we have in place and all the measures we have taken so far are the right ones, but I want to explore every possibility to minimise the risk to our school community

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 close contact with the individuals who has tested positive for coronavirus (COVID-19) have received a letter informing them that their child must stay at home for 14 days. If you have not received that letter you child does not need to self-isolate.

The school remains open and your child should continue to attend as normal 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 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'.

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 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

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

Further Information

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

Yours sincerely,



Nick Lewis

Principal

An International Academy

Principal: **Mr Nick Lewis**

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