



11 March 2021

Dear Parents/Carers

I am writing to thank families for the consent uptake of the Lateral Flow Testing Process within our academy. We have had 97% of our students' consent to the testing process, which will hopefully reassure families. Students will receive three tests in school. On the day of their third test they will receive home testing kits. I will send out further guidance on this process next week.

We have been advised by Public Health England to inform you that we have identified one asymptomatic COVID-19 positive lateral flow case within the school on **Wednesday 10 March 2021**, which has resulted in a small number of students having to self-isolate.

The school remains open and your child should continue to attend as normal if they remain well. I wanted to take this opportunity to remind you of the process to follow should your child develop symptoms.

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 a PCR test (the normally available test type) 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 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 household isolation period includes the day the first person in your household's symptoms started (or the day their test was taken if they did not have symptoms) and the next 10 full days. This means that if, for example, your 10 day isolation period starts on the 15th of the month, your isolation period ends at 23:59 hrs on the 25th and you can return to your normal routine.
- 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 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:

- 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 faithfully



J Thornton
Acting Principal