

QUEEN ELIZABETH'S GRAMMAR SCHOOL

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Headteacher: Mr S Garrity Chair of Governors: Mr C Smith



23rd September 2020

Dear Parents

Advice to All Parents – Covid Case

Following on from my letter yesterday, I am writing with an update regarding a positive case of COVID-19 in school.

I have had a detailed telephone conversation with a Public Health England advisor this morning, who has confirmed we are taking appropriate action to ensure the safety of our school community.

We now have two confirmed cases in the school. After careful consideration and following the school's risk assessment, **the majority of Year 8 can now return to school**. Similar to our actions yesterday, regarding Year 7, **close contacts of the case in Year 8 have been asked to stay at home until Thursday 1st October**. These contacts have been notified separately. Therefore, if you have not been contacted, it is safe for your child to return to school.

Year 10 students are to continue with remote learning from home on Thursday 24th September and further information will be forthcoming for Year 10 parents tomorrow. We are awaiting further information for this cohort and therefore, the safest option for them and other students is for Year 10 to continue working remotely for now. We remain committed to ensuring that school is open and as many students as possible are able to attend. These measured actions are to ensure the safety of our school community.

All areas of the school continue to receive enhanced cleaning through the day and every evening and all areas of the school accessed by the students who tested positive have had additional cleaning. Form tutors have updated members of their tutor group on the situation and offered them reassurance. We are regularly reviewing all actions we are taking, and I believe appropriate measures have been taken to continue to ensure the safety of students and staff.

I have been in contact with the families and I am delighted that the children are well in themselves.

I will continue to update the community as more information arises. However, if you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact the school. Should you have any concerns about this please contact your child's Form Tutor or Progress Leader by email to avoid busy phone lines. <https://www.queenelizabeths.derbyshire.sch.uk/contact-us/>

Reminders:

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, you must inform school of the absence and you must request a test via <https://www.nhs.uk/ask-for-a-coronavirus-test> or by calling 119.

You must also notify the school of a positive test outcome using this designated telephone number 07890 319042 during the school day and out of hours. This telephone number must only be used for positive Covid test outcomes. This will ensure that parents can avoid other busy school telephone lines, notifying us quickly, enabling us to react and respond appropriately.

Unless a negative test result is received for your child, all other household members who remain well, must still stay at home and not leave the house for 14 days,. This includes anyone in your 'Support Bubble'.

If a positive test is returned, 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.

Further information about positive test outcomes 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>

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



Mr S Garrity
Headteacher