



25<sup>th</sup> September 2020

Dear Parent/Carer

## Year 10 letter regarding COVID-19

Apologies for the late notification this evening and the second bulletin from us today! However, we felt it best to inform and advise you of the update we have just received and we have been waiting for today.

We have been notified this evening that there is a confirmed case of Covid-19 within Year 10. The student and their family are doing well, with only mild symptoms evident so far. Nevertheless, these are worrying times and it is all of our responsibility to ensure that we support and protect our students however we can.

The Year 10 cohort curriculum structure means that students are able to access their full range of subjects, including their options and core subjects, which means that class groups have to mix. In liaising with the family concerned, we carried out our track and trace earlier this week and our cautious approach explains why we asked Year 10 to remain at home. We knew we were dealing with a large number of close contacts through different lessons, different subjects and different friendship groups. This has resulted in us taking the difficult decision this evening to ask **all Year 10 students to continue with remote learning and to now self-isolate**. In line with the national guidance, **your child must now stay at home, continue with remote learning and self-isolate until Monday 5<sup>th</sup> October 2020** (this is 14 days from the initial symptoms being identified).

This will mean not leaving the house/garden at all, which we appreciate is difficult for older teenagers in particular. No sport, no part-time work, no visits to the local park and no friends visiting the house. This is essential to reduce the further spread of COVID 19 to others within the community.

If your child is well at the end of the 14 days period of self-isolation, then they can return to usual activities including attending school on Monday 5<sup>th</sup> October 2020. **Other members of your household can continue normal activities provided your child does not develop symptoms within the 14 day self-isolation period.**

### Remote Learning information:

Please see the Remote Learning page of the school website for information on provision from Monday.

<https://www.queenelizabeths.derbyshire.sch.uk/covid-19/remote-learning/>

Please see the link to: Guidance for contacts of people with confirmed coronavirus (COVID-19) infection who do not live with the person.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/guidance-for-contacts-of-people-with-possible-or-confirmed-coronavirus-covid-19-infection-who-do-not-live-with-the-person>

### What to do if your child develops symptoms of COVID 19

If your child develops symptoms of COVID-19 at any stage, 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.

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 of COVID 19**

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 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/>

We know that you may find this concerning but we are continuing to monitor the situation and are working closely with Public Health England and the DfE. This letter is to inform you of the current situation and to provide advice on how to support your child. Please be reassured that for most people, coronavirus will be a mild illness.

Please do not contribute to or partake in any social media commentary or speculation about this case or any other matters related to this. It can be particularly upsetting for the family affected and we want to ensure that our time and efforts are devoted to keeping your children safe and well educated, whether that be in school or at home.

Yours faithfully



Mr S Garrity  
**Headteacher**