

11 September 2020

Dear Year 9 Parent/Carer

Update letter with advice for child to self-isolate for 14 days

I write to inform you that a Year 9 student, that your child may have been in contact with, has tested positive for Covid-19. We are unable to share any further personal details, and I ask that families are sensitive to this, particularly on social media. I would like to reassure you that we have taken all reasonable infection prevention and control measures in school, and have sought specific advice from Public Health and the Local Authority today about this case.

Following the latest Department for Education and Public Health guidance, **it is necessary for your child, and all other students in Year 9, to stay at home and self-isolate for a period of 14 days.** They must continue to self-isolate until the 23 September 2020 under all circumstances. **This means they must remain at home and not attend school until Thursday 24 September.** Further details of what your child needs to do are in the NHS Guidance here:

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/testing-for-coronavirus/nhs-test-and-trace-if-youve-been-in-contact-with-a-person-who-has-coronavirus/>

We are asking you to do this to reduce the further spread of Covid-19 to others in the community. If you need support with isolation, please contact Redcar & Cleveland Borough Council.

Other members of your household can continue normal activities provided your child does not develop symptoms within the self-isolation period up to 23 September. **Siblings in year groups other than Year 9 should continue to attend school.**

If your child is well at the end of the period of self-isolation, then they can return to usual activities.

What to do if your child develops symptoms of Covid-19

For most people, especially children, Covid-19 will be a mild illness.

The most common symptoms of 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)

If your child develops any of these symptoms of Covid-19, they should continue to remain at home and arrangements should be made for them to be tested. At that time all other household members must also stay at home, not go to work, school or public areas, even for exercise, whilst those test results are pending.

Testing can be arranged by calling 119 or via the NHS website: www.nhs.uk/coronavirus

When the result of your child's test is known further advice will then be made available to you by Public Health. If your child tests positive for Covid-19, you must inform school at your very earliest opportunity. This will enable us to work with Public Health to trace other people your child may have come into contact with and advise them take the necessary precautions and self-isolate. Please be assured that we will not share any personal or confidential information about your child with staff or parents/carers.

Please note that students in Year 9 who test negative for Covid-19 before the 23 September must still continue to self-isolate and stay at home, to ensure no symptoms develop during the self-isolation period.

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:

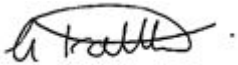
- wash your hands with soap and water often – do this for at least 20 seconds
- use hand sanitiser gel if soap and water are not available
- wash your hands as soon as you get home
- cover your mouth and nose with a tissue or your sleeve (not your hands) when you cough or sneeze
- put used tissues in the bin immediately and wash your hands afterwards

Online Learning

School work will be set for your Year 9 child to complete online through their Google Classroom and via 'live' lessons during the normal school day hours. We will give more information about that in a different letter shortly.

Thank you for your continued support and understanding, it is very much appreciated.

Yours faithfully,



Gemma Trattles
Principal