

13 November 2020

Dear Parent/carers

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT FOR PARENT/CARERS OF YEAR 10 STUDENTS AT WELLING SCHOOL

We have been informed of a confirmed case of COVID-19 within the school. The case is within the Year 10 Bubble and is the third confirmed case this week.

In consultation with the Trust and the local Public Health Team, the decision has been taken to close the school to all Year 10 students next week. In line with the national guidance your child should now stay at home and self-isolate until 20 November 2020. This means that your child can return to school on Monday 23 November.

We are asking you to do this to reduce the further spread of COVID-19 to others in the community.

The self-isolation period started on Friday 6 November. If your child is well at the end of the 14 days period of self-isolation, then they can return to usual activities.

All year groups received a letter this morning regarding home learning and this explains how your child can continue with their studies.

Members of your household, including siblings in other year groups, can continue normal activities, including attending school, provided that your child does not develop symptoms within the 14 day self-isolation period.

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, they 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.

www.wellingschool-tkat.org

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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 can, 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.

Please see the link to the PHE 'Stay at Home' Guidance:

<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 NHS 111 at <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/check-if-you-have-coronavirus-symptoms/> 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 do appreciate that this is a very difficult time, particularly as your child is in Year 10. We thank you for your understanding and the Year 10 Team are very much here to help. Please do get in contact if you require any further clarification or support.

Yours faithfully



Mr R Pett
Headteacher