

5 November 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

Advice to All Parents regarding Positive Case of Coronavirus at William Brookes School

Late last night, we were made aware that a member of our Year 12 bubble has tested positive for COVID 19. This letter is to inform you of the current situation and provide advice on how to support your child.

We know that you may find this concerning but we are continuing to monitor the situation and are working closely with the Shropshire area Public Health England team. The affected individual was last in school on Tuesday, 3 November. This is an isolated case and currently there are no other students within this bubble displaying symptoms. The student concerned did not use any of the school transport systems nor worked in any capacity with any other year groups in school.

The students who have been in any form of possible close contact with the individual who has tested positive for coronavirus (COVID-19) have been contacted by us today. They have been told to self-isolate for 14 days. There are no family siblings and so all other year groups are safe to be in school and attend as normal.

PLEASE READ THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION FROM PUBLIC HEALTH ENGLAND on the attached page:

I am sorry to write to you with this news. However, it is very important that the whole school community is aware of the situation. Rest assured that we are following advice and guidance from the Department for Education and Public Health England in order to slow down the spread of the virus.

Yours sincerely

Mr G R Renwick
Head

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INFORMATION FROM PUBLIC HEALTH ENGLAND

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.

People who do not have symptoms should not request a test unless this has been specifically requested by Public Health England or the local authority.

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.

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 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/>