

Dear parents,

I am writing to inform you that this morning we have found out that one of our Year 7 students has tested positive for coronavirus. The student has tested positive on a PCR test. Advice from Public Health England is that we need to isolate all close contacts immediately.

We have identified all close contacts and asked those students to self-isolate. **Your child has been identified as a close contact.** We have spoken to the person concerned to identify social contacts and we have looked at all seating plans and have identified those who have been within 2 metres of the person who has tested positive for more than 15 minutes.

In line with the national guidance **we recommend that your child now stay at home and self-isolate until the end of the day on Monday 12 July, returning to the academy on Tuesday 13 July.** This self-isolation period is 10 days from your child's last contact with the positive case. Lessons will start on Teams from tomorrow. If your child does not have a device to access Teams lessons then please let us know and we can supply you with one.

We are asking your child to isolate to reduce the further spread of COVID 19 to others in the community. If your child is well at the end of their period of self-isolation, then they can return to usual activities.

In a slight change, Public Health have asked that you take your child for a PCR test towards the end of their isolation period (perhaps day 8 which would be Saturday 10 July). They are asking people to do this to try to pick up non-symptomatic cases and therefore to reduce spread in the community. They are also hoping that this might help to identify variants of concern at an earlier stage.

Other members of your household can continue normal activities provided your child does not develop symptoms within their 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 10 days. This includes anyone in your 'Support Bubble'.

The 10 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 10 days will greatly reduce the overall amount of infection the household could pass on to others in the community.

If you are able to, 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/>

Yours sincerely
Mr P Latham
Chief Executive
Endeavour Academies