



Tuesday 1 December 2020

Dear Parents and Carers

It has unfortunately been confirmed today that a further member of our school community in Year 9 has tested positive for COVID-19.

It is very likely that the cases have come from household transmission and not from within school. Public Health England have asked me to highlight to all parents and carers how essential it is that we all follow the rules on social distancing and household contacts outside of school. To prevent COVID-19 coming into school, if any family is unwell and displays symptoms of COVID they must not come to school and the whole family would need to self-isolate.

You will be aware of my recent communication over the weekend and cases within Years 7, 9 and 12. I know that you may find news of an additional case concerning but I wanted to reassure you that we are continuing to monitor the situation and are working closely with Public Health England.

Having consulted with both the national DfE/PHE and the local PHE support teams I can confirm all these cases are still treated as single cases as they have occurred within separate year group bubbles. With the two cases in Year 9, they have occurred within two separate teaching populations.

All available evidence suggests that the infections occurred outside of the school environment within the local community.

The DfE/PHE are clear from a public health perspective there is no reason for the rest of the year group to self-isolate and the school should remain open. There is no further action for the school other than to identify the close contacts of each student and ask them to self-isolate.

We fully recognise that this will be both worrying and disappointing to our school community. We would like to reassure everyone that we have a wide range of measures in place, and all actions and decisions are made to ensure the safety and welfare of our pupils and staff.

The small number of children who have been in close contact with the individual who has tested positive for coronavirus (COVID-19) have been contacted today by a member of senior staff and will receive a letter informing them that their child must stay at home for 14 days.

The school remains open and your child should continue to attend as normal if they remain well.

Public Health England have asked me to remind all parents of the information in the attached letter.

Should anyone have any specific concerns, please do contact your son/daughter's Head of Year/Assistant Head of Year in the first instance. We fully understand the anxiety this causes for families but once again would like to reassure that systems in school conform to the DfE guidance as covered by our risk assessment.

Yours sincerely,



Robert Pearsall
HEADTEACHER