

19th October 2020

Dear Parents,

Positive Covid-19 Case and isolation of Year 10 pupils

Today, we received notification that there has been a Covid-19 case within the school. This case has affected a pupil in Year 10.

We have therefore taken the decision to close the affected class, with the pupils in this class isolating at home for 14 days. In addition, we have identified a further 11 contacts of this pupil in other year 10 classes who will also isolate. These families will be informed directly by letter. Please note that **siblings of the children affected should not isolate**, only the children who have directly been in proximity to the infected pupil.

We know that you may find this concerning, but we are continuing to monitor the situation and have taken advice from Public Health England and Ark Schools. We believe the response of sending these two bubbles home will keep these groups and all our community safe.

The way that we are running the school means that these classes are kept separate from other children in the school, and so we have mitigated the risks of transmission to other pupils. In Secondary, staff will not need to isolate because they have been able to distance from the pupils.

The school remains open and other than those in these classes your child should continue to attend as normal if they remain well.

Symptoms

A reminder that the most common symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19) are recent onset of:

- a new continuous cough
- a high temperature
- a loss of, or change in, your 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
- encourage your child to follow all the expectations around distancing, handwashing and face covering when in school

Thank you to all our parents for their continued support. It is challenging for schools and for families to be living with the risks of Covid-19, but we are showing resilience and supporting each other through this period.

Yours sincerely,

Max Haimendorf
Principal