This letter is to all parents at KSA

Dear parents,

We continue to have to react to Covid related issues in real time and so I am sending another letter regarding Covid-19 to all parents. This update is regarding a member of staff in Secondary testing positive. It is sent to the whole parent body so that even if your child is not in Secondary, or directly impacted, you can see how we are responding as a school.

Today we have learnt that Mr Barton, Head of Year 10, has received a positive test having developed symptoms on Thursday 26th November. Mr Barton was in school on Tuesday 24th November, which was one of the days when he is considered to have been infectious (he was not in school since, as a member of his household developed symptoms overnight before Wednesday 25th November, and so he was isolating at home). We have undergone contact tracing on Tuesday 24th November to establish if any pupils or staff need to isolate having been identified as a known contact. Mr Barton has been working within the risk assessment protocols, the wearing of masks in communal areas and distancing between staff and pupils, which has limited any exposure to other pupils or staff.

Tracing contacts uses the Public Health England definition of contact – this includes those who have interacted with a known positive case in the following ways:

- Being less than 1m away from this pupil for 1 minute or more
- Having physical contact, being coughed on, direct face to face speaking
- Being less than 2m away from this pupil for 15 minutes or more

Having reviewed Mr Barton’s teaching, pastoral commitments and other activities during these days, at the time of writing, no direct close contacts or proximity contacts have been identified.

Mr Barton is a visible member of staff in Secondary, so it is possible that many pupils may have transiently interacted with Mr Barton, for example in the corridor (where he was wearing a mask). This type of interaction does not constitute contact and is extremely low risk in terms of risk of transmission. We do not believe, at the time of writing that Mr Barton has any direct close or proximity contact with pupils in the infectious period of Tuesday 24th November. However, if your child believes that they have been a direct close contact or proximity contact of Mr Barton, they should stay at home on Monday and you should contact the school directly at parents@kingssolomonacademy.org.

We have taken advice from Public Health England, Ark Schools and the Local Authority.

In summary:

- Mr Barton, Head of Year 10 has tested positive
- There are no known contacts and so no one else needs to isolate
Yours sincerely,

Mr Haimendorf
Principal