

15.11.20

This letter is to all parents at KSA

Dear parents,

I am sorry to have to write to you with more COVID related news. I wrote to you at the end of last week about the two confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Year 12. Over the weekend there has been a third confirmed case from Year 12. As a result, **we have closed the year 12 bubble** and decided that no students will return to Year 12 for two full weeks from contact, returning on Thursday 26th November. 67 of the 79 pupils in Year 12 were required to isolate for a period and so we have made the operational decision that it is safer and will lead to a better educational experience to have the entire year group (including the 12 who had not been in contact with any of the three cases) learn from home for this period. We have taken advice from Public Health England who agree with this decision.

As before, siblings of Year 12 pupils (other than those with symptoms) should continue to come to school.

Over the weekend we have also learnt that **Mr Mvula**, Assistant Principal, has received a positive test having developed symptoms on the evening of Thursday 12th November. Therefore, we have undergone contact tracing on Tuesday 10th November, Wednesday 11th November and Thursday 12th November to establish if any pupils or staff need to isolate having been identified as a known contact. Mr Mvula has been working within the risk assessment protocols, including 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 1metre for 1 minute or more
- any physical contact
- being coughed on (all types of direct close contact)
- being less than 2m away for more than 15 minutes (proximity contacts)

Having reviewed Mr Mvula'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. However, one member of staff was in a room with Mr Mvula (at more than 2m distance) for a sustained period, so to be cautious, this member of staff will be isolating for 14 days from the last contact.

Mr Mvula is a visible member of staff in Secondary, for example he is often on duty on the street before school, so it is possible that many pupils may have transiently passed Mr Mvula when outside (or inside). This 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 Mvula has any direct close or proximity contact with pupils in the infectious period of Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday (10th-12th November). However, if your child believes that they have been a direct close contact or proximity

contact of Mr Mvula, they should stay at home and you should contact the school directly at parents@kingsolomonacademy.org.

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

Reflecting on the details above, we ask all parents across the school to keep the school informed if your child is unwell with Covid related symptoms, isolate the household and **seek a test urgently**. The sooner you can get tested the sooner we can identify any risk and address it. There has been a significant increase in testing capacity and people can now get tests quickly and this is likely to continue to improve further. Please take advantage of this if your child is unwell with relevant symptoms.

In summary:

- Due to three cases in year 12, the whole of Year 12 bubble is now closed, returning on Thursday 26th November
- Siblings of the isolating pupils can attend school as normal
- Mr Mvula, Assistant Principal, has tested positive – there are no known direct close contacts or proximity contacts

Yours sincerely,

Mr Haimendorf
Principal