

Advice to Year 10, 11, 12, 13 Parents - Single confirmed case: Year 9 Student

Dear Parents,

We have been advised by Public Health England that there has been a single confirmed case of COVID-19 within the school.

We know that you may find this worrying but we are continuing to monitor the situation closely and are working directly with Public Health England.

This letter is to inform you of the current situation in school, our plans for the next two weeks and to provide advice on how to support your child.

Our Year 9 Ignite hub has closed today until 19th October 2020.

Our Year 10, 11, 12 and 13 hubs will remain open. Your child should continue to attend if they remain well.

Your child does not need to isolate at this time.

Students and staff will continue to wear masks, be encouraged to wash hands frequently, will social distance in and out of the classroom and have access to hand sanitiser throughout the day. The building is being deep cleaned today.

We would be grateful if you could let us know if your child has a sibling at either the UTC or Studio in the Year 9 group.

Our canteen service will remain as usual for the next two weeks. Minibuses will continue to pick up and drop off to the main transport hubs at the usual times. Students will be required to wear a face covering on the buses.

I appreciate that this is a worrying time. Students are working really well in their year group hubs and this is helping to keep students in the building as the numbers change locally. We are confident that Year 10, 11, 12 and 13 students can continue to attend with minimal risk and are taking every possible step to make sure there is as little disruption to them as possible.

I have included additional information below from Public Health England which will remind you of what to do should you suspect your child or a family member is displaying symptoms.

With kind regards,

Jill Davies, Principal

What to do if your child develops symptoms of COVID 19

Please be reassured that for most people, coronavirus (COVID-19) will be a mild illness.

If your child develops symptoms of COVID-19, they must not come to school and 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 14 days. This includes anyone in your 'Support Bubble'.

Further information is available at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-stay-at-home-guidance/stay-at-home-guidance-for-households-with-possible-coronavirus-covid-19-infection>

The 14-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 14 days will greatly reduce the overall amount of infection the household could pass on to others in the community

If you are able, 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.

Symptoms

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 or anyone in the household does develop symptoms, you can seek advice from NHS 111 at <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/check-if-you-have-coronavirus-symptoms/> 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/>