

Principal: Mr Paul Willerton

**Dear Parents & Carers** 

September 2020

I hope you and your families are safe and well. It has been a pleasure seeing the students back on the academy site engaged with their learning over the last 3 days. As discussed in previous communication, the Covid 19 situation is ever changing and so I will be writing to you more regularly to ensure you are fully informed of any developments.

As you are already aware, we currently recommend masks being worn on corridors and communal areas. I predict that as the national and local picture develops, this could move towards making masks compulsory in these areas. With this in mind, can parents and carers ensure their child has a mask ready in case that is a stance the academy is advised to take in the future.

In my previous letter I gave details of the government stance in areas of lockdown. I felt it would be helpful for me to explain through this letter and the attached poster how we will manage day-to-day illness and ask for your support in the following areas.

First and foremost, it is incredibly important that if your child has any of the 3 symptoms of Covid 19 or lives with someone who does that they **do not** attend the academy. If your child has symptoms, they need to be taken for a test and will need to self-isolate until the results are available. At that point we will be guided by Track and Trace. This is the same procedure that is being used with staff at the academy

If your child attends the academy and shows any symptoms, even if they are mild, we will call you immediately to arrange for your child to be collected. Following government guidance, they would then need to self-isolate until the results of a test are known and then they will be guided by Track and Trace. This is the same procedure that is being used with staff at the academy

If a positive test is confirmed for a member of staff or student at the academy, we will immediately contact Public Health England who will guide us on the next steps. This could vary from students who have been in close contact with the individual being asked to self-isolate to year group bubbles self-isolating. The academy will follow the guidance given by Public Health England. The definition for close contact is:



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- direct close contacts face to face contact with an infected individual for any length of time, within 1 metre, including being coughed on, a face to face conversation, or unprotected physical contact (skin-to-skin)
- proximity contacts extended close contact (within 1 to 2 metres for more than 15 minutes) with an infected individual
- travelling in a small vehicle, like a car, with an infected person

The measures taken by the academy are to minimise the amount of close contact that students have.

Finally a plea. We are still having a number of students arriving earlier than their gate opening time. This can cause issues for members of the public. Can students only arrive at the academy for their designated times, no earlier unless there are transport restraints which have been discussed with their Head of Year.

Thanks you for your continued support

Yours faithfully

PM\_

Mr P Willerton Principal



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# WHAT TO DO IF...

This poster is a summary of guidance of what to do if you or a household member has COVID-19 symptoms or you've been in contact with a confirmed case. It is intended as a quick reference, but you should read the full guidance linked at the bottom of each column.



## <u>YOU HAVE</u> <u>SYMPTOMS</u> OF CORONAVIRUS

If you have coronavirus symptoms:

- a high temperature
- a new, continuous cough
- a loss of, or change to, your sense of smell or taste

#### Inform the academy ASAP

Get a test now www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test

Follow '**stay at home**: guidance for households with possible or confirmed coronavirus infection' www.bit.ly/stayathomeguidance

#### www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test

## SOMEONE IN YOUR HOUSEHOLD HAS SYMPTOMS

If someone in your household develops symptoms, they get a test. Other members of their household self-isolate for 14 days from when the symptomatic person first had symptoms.

#### Inform the academy ASAP

If the test is negative;

- the person with symptoms can stop
- self-isolating, but may have another illness
- other members of the household can stop self-isolating

If the test is positive;

- the person with symptoms selfisolates for at least 10 days from symptom onset and follows stay at home guidance
- other members of the household can continue self-isolating for the full 14 days

www.bit.ly/stayathomeguidance

## YOU'VE BEEN IN <u>CONTACT</u> <u>WITH</u> A CONFIRMED CASE

Contacts who need to self-isolate will be notified and advised accordingly by the NHS Test and Trace service. If you have not been notified, this means you do not need to self-isolate If your contact is waiting for a test result, you do not need to self-isolate.

If you have been informed that you are a contact of a person who has had a positive test result for COVID-19;

- self-isolate at home for 14 days from the date of your last contact with them.

### Inform the academy ASAP

#### follow the 'stay at home' guidance

- You are at risk of developing COVID-19 for the next 14 days.
- Even if you never develop symptoms, you can still be infected and pass the virus on without knowing it.
- You should not arrange for testing unless you develop symptoms of COVID-19.
- If you do not have symptoms of COVID-19, other people in your household do not need to self-isolate at home with you.

#### www.bit.ly/guidanceforcontacts