Date: 16 November 2020

Dear parent or carer,

**RE: Advice for Child to Self-Isolate for 14 Days – Year 9**

We have been made aware that we have now had a number of confirmed positive cases of coronavirus (COVID-19) within our school community. There has been **1 confirmed case in Year 9.** We have been working very closely over the weekend with Public Health England and as a result have identified any student who has been in close contact with the child who has tested positive.

We are strictly following national guidance and we have identified contacts through close scrutiny of seating plans, listening to staff and through identifying break and lunch contacts. Any child that we have identified as having had close contact has received a text asking them to remain at home and self-isolate for 14 days from the last possible contact. Year 9 parents that were texted on the 15th November should ensure that their child self isolates until the **20th November,** returning to school on the **23rd November**.

If you feel that your child has had close contact with somebody who has tested positive for Coronavirus and we haven’t contacted you, then please keep them off school and inform us immediately with the details of the contact. This is best done by emailing us at info@chamberlayne,org.

If your child is well at the end of the 14 days period of self-isolation, then they can return to usual activities. Other members of your household can continue normal activities provided your child does not develop symptoms within the 14 day self-isolation period.

Please see the link to: Guidance for contacts of people with confirmed coronavirus (COVID-19) infection who do not live with the person

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/guidance-for-contacts-of-people-with-possible-or-confirmed-coronavirus-covid-19-infection-who-do-not-live-with-the-person>

**What to do if your child develops symptoms of COVID 19**

If your child develops symptoms of COVID-19, they 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 .

People who do not have symptoms should not request a test unless this has been specifically requested by Public Health England or the local authority.

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’.

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 can, 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

Please see the link to the PHE ‘Stay at Home’ Guidance:

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

**Symptoms of COVID 19**

The most common symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19) are recent onset of:

* new continuous cough and/or
* high temperature and/or
* a loss of, or change in, 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

**Further Information**

Further information is available at

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/>

Yours faithfully

Mr N S Giles, BA(Hons), NPQH

Headteacher