



5th October 2020

Dear Parent/Carer of Students in Year 12-13,

We have been advised by Public Health England that there has been a confirmed case of COVID-19 within the School. **This is a student in Year 12.** Our thoughts are with the student and family affected. We appreciate that you may find this concerning but we are continuing to monitor the situation and are working closely with Public Health England.

We have followed the national guidance and have identified that your child could have been in close contact with the affected student. In line with the national guidance, we ask that your child now stays at home and self-isolates **until 19th October 2020**. We will support them learning and working from home remotely, and further guidance will be issued on this.

We are asking you to keep your child at home to reduce the further spread of COVID-19 to others in the community. If your child is well at the end of the 14 day period of self-isolation, then they can return to their usual activities including returning to school **on 19th October 2020**. 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-coronavirustest> 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, 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-forhouseholds-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-youhave-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 COVID19:

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

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the School via the contactus@highamlaneschool.co.uk email address.

Our absolute priority is the safety and wellbeing of our students and staff. We have followed the guidance from the Department for Education and Public Health Warwickshire in full. This has minimised the risk to other students and staff.

Thank you, in anticipation, for your on-going support at this time.

Yours sincerely,

P.Kelly

Headteacher