

1st December 2020

Dear Parents and Carers

We wanted to notify you as soon as possible that we have been advised that there has been a third confirmed case of Covid-19 within the school community. This case is located in a separate bubble to where the first two cases occurred but is a sibling of one of the children who has already tested positive in the separate bubble where the first case occurred. We are being extra cautious as the child did not display any of the three classic cases of coronavirus on the Friday 26th November which is the first day she complained of any symptoms. Technically according to the Government Guidance we could allow the bubble to stay as she did not have covid-19 symptoms on the Friday and only got tested on Sunday but as we are aware of positive cases in the child's family we are interpreting the symptoms from Friday as Covid-19 symptoms. The period of self-isolation for the children and Staff of that bubble will be 14 days and the bubble will be able to return on Friday the 11th December. The members of the bubble, Staff and children have been informed. We wish the children who have tested positive and their families so well and they are in our thoughts. We are following all the Government guidelines and with each case, we have conducted a risk assessment with a Government advisor and liaised with Public Health Harrow.

We know that you may find this concerning but we are continuing to monitor the situation and are working closely with Public Health England and relevant authorities. This letter is to inform you of the current situation and provide advice on how to support your child. Please be reassured that for most people, coronavirus (COVID-19) will be a mild illness.

The small number of children who have been in close contact with the individual who has tested positive for coronavirus (COVID-19) have received a letter informing them that their child must stay at home for 14 days.

The **school remains open** and **your child should continue to attend as normal if they remain well.**

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

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.

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If you require help with buying groceries, other shopping or picking up medication, or walking a dog, you should ask friends or family. If you are struggling with food, please contact the school office as we have a food bank and want to help you. 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 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/>

Thank you for your help and partnership and wishing us all health and safety

Yours sincerely



D Kerbel
Headteacher