



Date: Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> October 2020

**Letter A : FOR PARENTS OF YEAR 10 STUDENTS ONLY**

**Advice for Child to Self-Isolate for 14 Days**

Dear Parent/Guardian,

We have been made aware that we have three positive cases of coronavirus (COVID-19) for students within our Year 10 learning bubble at Oldbury Wells School.

We have followed the national guidance and discussed the detail with Shropshire's Public Health Team alongside Public Health England (PHE). As a result, we have made the decision to close the school for our whole Year 10 bubble. *In line with national guidance your child must stay at home and self-isolate with immediate effect until Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> November.* They should return to school on Friday 6<sup>th</sup> November.

I am aware that the timing of this communication is difficult with it being half term, although as advised by PHE, the process the school takes must follow normal procedures. The dates given for your child's isolation period and return to school have been finalised because of the last point of possible contact in school prior to the half term period.

If your child has siblings in another year group at the school, as outlined in government guidance, they should attend school under normal arrangements.

If your child is well at the end of the 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>

We have set up an e-mail for families to use should there be any key questions or confirmed cases of children who attend the school ([covid.support@oldburywells.com](mailto:covid.support@oldburywells.com)). Please leave your contact details and the name of your child within any communication.

**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 .

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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/>

As you will be aware, as a school we have strictly followed the guidance provided by government and have robust control measures in school to ensure as safe an environment in school as possible. We would ask all families to follow national guidance to ensure that we all play our part in keeping our community safe.

As always, thank you for your support. We will forward any further updates as we receive any further information, ensuring that your child is fully supported, including arrangements for their distance learning work which will be finalised for the start of term.

Yours sincerely

**Lee Tristham**  
Headteacher