



Date: Saturday 21st November 2020

Letter D : General Letter to all School Students / Parents / Guardians

Advice to All Parents

Dear Parents / Guardian

Following my earlier communication to parents today, we have received communication of a further positive case for a student in our Year 8 bubble (this is not connected to the year 11 case). For this reason, alongside our Year 11 bubble, we have asked those students who are in the following tutor groups to self-isolate until Monday 30th November, returning to school on Tuesday 1st December:

- 8JAK (Mr Kiapene)
- 8JMO (Mrs Moore)
- 8MBR (Miss Brindley)

Due to our curriculum structure and our COVID control measures, students in the '8Y' half of the year group should continue to attend school as normal [these are students in 8ERB (Mrs Roberts), 8RMC (Mrs Chapman), 8ED (Mrs Dunning)].

We know that you may find this letter concerning and are receiving it at a difficult time at the weekend. We feel that it is important that we share any information at the earliest opportunity having received any communication on positive cases to ensure that everyone remains safe. We are continuing to monitor the situation and have followed all COVID safety measures in line with government requirements.

This letter is to inform you of the current situation and provide advice on how to support your child. Those students who are required to self-isolate have received a separate letter informing them of what they are required to do.

The school remains open for all other year groups (except for Year 11) from Monday 23rd November, and your child should continue to attend as normal if they remain well, this includes siblings of students self-isolating.

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). 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 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.

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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.

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.

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/>

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 all children are fully supported in school

Yours sincerely

Lee Tristham
Headteacher