



Date: Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> December 2020

**Letter 1 : FOR PARENTS OF YEAR 9 STUDENTS ONLY**

**Advice for Child to Self-Isolate**

Dear Parent/Guardian,

We have been made aware that we have a positive case of coronavirus (COVID-19) for a student within our Year 9 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 9 bubble. The period of isolation for close contacts is now 10 days.

Due to the nature of the case, the end of the self-isolation period for identified students will differ depending on their last point of contact, we will be informing parents of the end date for their child's isolation period shortly, a letter will follow containing this detail. (The dates provided for the period of isolation are advised by PHE based on the last point of possible contact in school).

I am aware that the timing of this communication is difficult with it being so close to the Christmas period, although our priority as always is to make sure that all families are updated of any actions the school is required to take and that everyone remains safe.

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

With regards to work, initially tomorrow (Wednesday) students should focus on any outstanding homework tasks or access work on the Oak National Academy:

<https://www.thenational.academy/>

From Thursday, your child will be set work via distance learning and is expected to access work via Satchel One and Microsoft TEAMS, lessons will be delivered in line with their normal school timetable. Information on how this works can be found at the following address, parents will receive further information regarding this tomorrow.

<http://twc-cms2.azurewebsites.net/parent-information/distance-learning>

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For all students, their isolation period will end over the next 10 days and therefore if your child is well, then they can return to school on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> January 2021.

Other members of your household can continue normal activities provided your child does not develop symptoms within the 10-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 .

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 10 days. This includes anyone in your 'Support Bubble'. The 10-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 10 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 updates as we receive any further information, ensuring that your child is fully supported throughout the period of self-isolation.

Yours sincerely

**Lee Tristham**  
Headteacher