



Date: Monday 14th June 2021

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

Dear Parents / Guardian

You will be aware that we have had several confirmed positive COVID-19 cases within the Year 8 Learning Bubble. Having taken advice from Public Health England and liaised with the local health team we have made the decision to close school for the year 8 Year group only.

We know that you may find this concerning, but we are continuing to monitor the situation and are working closely with Public Health England. This letter is to inform you of the current situation and provide advice on how to support your child.

The small number of children who have been in close contact with the individuals concerned outside of the year group have received a letter informing them that their child must stay at home for 10 days.

The school remains open for all other students and your child should continue to attend as normal if they remain well. Our current COVID secure practices are in line with all requirements, and we continue to work hard to ensure that our school community remains safe for all students and staff.

Can I remind parents that although face coverings are not a requirement for students in school; your child may decide to wear a covering during any point of the school day, particularly in areas where social distancing is more difficult to be maintained. It is important that we continue to work together positively to ensure everyone is always supported.

We will be providing students with further information in school when required and will be in further contact with parents should there be any further updates.

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 a PCR test (the normally available test type) 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 10 days. This includes anyone in your 'Support Bubble'.

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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 household isolation period includes the day the first person in your household's symptoms started (or the day their test was taken if they did not have symptoms) and the next 10 full days. This means that if, for example, your 10 day isolation period starts on the 15th of the month, your isolation period ends at 23:59 hrs on the 25th and you can return to your normal routine.

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, 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/>

A reminder that 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. In addition, further information is available on the school website (<http://www.oldburywells.com/parent-information/covid-update>)

Thank you as always for your support and understanding.

Yours sincerely

Lee Tristham
Headteacher