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TRUST·ED
Schools' Partnership

Headteacher: Mr J Parr BA Hons

15th July 2021

FOR PARENTS OF YEAR 7 STUDENTS ONLY - Advice for Child to Self-Isolate for 10 Days

Dear Parent/carer,

We have been made aware that we have a small number of positive cases of coronavirus (COVID-19) within our Year 7 learning bubble at Church Stretton 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 7 bubble.

In line with national guidance your child must stay at home and self-isolate, with immediate effect, until and including Saturday 24th July 2021. They should not return to school therefore until the new academic year (September 2021).

With cases of Covid-19 across 3 year groups now and following consultation with the DfE, Shropshire Public Health and the Local Authority, with regret I am closing the school to all students at the end of the day today (15th July 2021). I understand that this may cause difficulty for families of Year 8 students who will spend their last day of term on remote learning activities (along with other year groups now isolating), but it is a decision taken given the very recent outbreak across other years and how readily the virus seems to be spreading. School will remain open for staff tomorrow and staff can be contacted as normal.

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 10 day self-isolation period.

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@csschool.co.uk). Please leave your contact details and the name of your child within any communication.

For more information, please see the 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>

Getting a PCR test for a close contact of a case?

It is now also possible for close contacts to have a PCR test even where they do not have symptoms through [Get a free PCR test to check if you have coronavirus \(COVID-19\) - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](#) or by calling 119. In some areas you may be encouraged to do this by your local authority or local health protection team.

Please note: if your child has a negative PCR test result this does not alter the self-isolation period as a contact. Close contacts should continue to self-isolate for 10 full days, as they could still become infectious and pass the infection onto others. Please make sure you read the full text message from NHS Test and Trace when receiving a negative result.

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This makes clear that you do not need to self-isolate **unless** 'you've been told to self-isolate because you've been in close contact with someone who tested positive' [Negative test result for coronavirus \(COVID-19\) - NHS \(www.nhs.uk\)](https://www.nhs.uk).

What to do if your child develops symptoms of coronavirus (COVID 19)

Having been identified as a close contact, if your child then develops symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19), they should remain at home for at least 10 days from the date when their symptoms appeared. Symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19) are a new, continuous cough, or a high temperature, or a loss of, or change in, their normal sense of taste or smell (anosmia). Anyone with symptoms will be eligible for a PCR test - this is the type of test that is normally available and 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'.

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. If that is not possible, anyone with symptoms should try and stay as far away as possible from vulnerable members of your household.

For more information, please read PHE's '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>

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.

Further Information

Further information is available at

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/>

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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 updates as we receive any further information, ensuring that your child is fully supported. During the period of isolation your child will be provided with distance learning work as outlined on our website under the Curriculum tab. Your child will follow normal timetable classes where possible, therefore should be prepared to follow the normal school day timings.

Yours sincerely,

John Parr
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