

17th October 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

We have been advised that two students within the school community have tested positive for COVID-19 within the past 48 hours. The young people involved are from the same household and are both asymptomatic. We have been in contact with all individuals who have been identified as contacts. **If you have not been contacted by a senior member of staff we do not believe that your child has been in contact with either student.**

We are continuing to monitor the situation and are working closely with the local Public Health England team. This letter is to inform you of the current situation and provide advice on how to support your child. Please be reassured that for most people, coronavirus (COVID-19) will be a mild illness.

The school remains open to all year groups next week and providing your child remains well they can continue to attend school as normal. We will keep this under review.

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.

All other household members who remain well must stay at home and not leave the house for 14 days.

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.

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.

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Headteacher

Symptoms

The most common symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19) are recent onset of:

- new continuous cough and/or
- high temperature
- 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 or anyone in the household does develop symptoms, you can seek advice from NHS 111 at: <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/symptoms/> 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/>

We will ensure that we keep you informed if there are any further developments with regard to this specific situation. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all parents and carers for their continued support throughout this challenging time. I am very much aware of situations in some schools in various parts of the country where some parents have not been understanding both when their children have been required to self-isolate and also with regard to issues such as inappropriate conversations on social media platforms. We are extremely grateful for the fact that the Vyners community has remained united.

Yours sincerely,



Gary Mullings
Headteacher