

6th October 2020

RE: Advice to all - Single case of COVID-19

Dear Parents and Carers,

We have been advised by Public Health England that there has been a confirmed case of COVID-19 within the academy. **Please note that this single student case is not related to the single student case or single staff case communicated yesterday and over the weekend respectively.**

Once again, 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 is reassuring for our community as it means that we can continue to strictly adhere to the guidance in order to educate our learners in a COVID-secure environment. 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.

Again, first and foremost, the most important thing is the health of all of us and in this light, we wish all potentially affected by this the very best of health. In another telephone conversation with the affected parents earlier (following the notification they provided for the academy today), it was again reassuring to hear that the student and family are generally well.

The small number of students who have been in close contact with the individual who has tested positive for coronavirus (COVID-19) have been contacted by phone call today and received a letter informing them that their child must stay at home for 14 days. **This ‘proximity guidance’ is determined by Public Health England and the investigation they facilitate allows us to clearly determine who is a ‘primary contact’ and therefore needs to self-isolate. If you have not been contacted then this does not directly affect your child.**

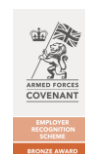
The academy remains open and your child must continue to attend as normal if they remain well. We remain assured by the support given to us by Public Health England and by continuing to strictly follow their and the Department for Education’s guidance, we will continue to safely deliver the high quality of education we are all accustomed to here at Bristnall Hall Academy.

As discussed with Public Health England this morning, I would like to take this opportunity to remind us all of the national guidance issued across England at present:

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.

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.

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/>

Finally, we would like to thank you all for your continued support during this time. By continuing to work together, we will ensure that our community remains safe and continues transforming lives of our children and young people.

Yours faithfully,



Mr K. Uppal
Principal