

Orchard School Bristol

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10 December 2020

Dear Parent/Carer

We have been made aware of a member of our school community, a student in Year 7, who has tested positive for COVID 19. We know that you may find this concerning, but we are continuing to monitor the situation and are working closely with Public Health England.

Students who have been identified as being in close contact with the individual who has tested positive have been sent home, and their parents/carers have been texted/emailed a letter informing them that their child must stay at home for 14 days since last contact.

The school remains open and children not identified as close contacts should continue to attend as normal as long as they show no symptoms.

At the end of this letter is a reminder of how you can support your child who may be concerned by this, and some further advice on symptoms and measures to reduce the spread of this Coronavirus.

As you know, we have amended many of our ways of working and put in place extensive measures to ensure that our students and staff are as safe as possible in school. We expect all students and staff in school to wear a face covering in corridors, in order to keep them as safe as possible. Students should bring a cloth face mask in, keep it in their blazer pocket for use through the day, and then wash it regularly at home.

Students have been very good at following these procedures and our instructions. This confirmed case is an important reminder about why these procedures matter and that we must be vigilant to protect our wider community.

We will keep you updated should we need to provide you with any further information.

Yours sincerely

Julia Hinchliffe, Headteacher



General information about Coronavirus

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.

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 had been specifically requested by Public Health England or the local authority. In the case of a household member developing symptoms, 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'. The 14-day period starts from the day when the first person in the house became ill.

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.

- Wash your hands with soap and water often – so 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