Edward Peake C of E (VC) Middle School

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Dear Parent/Carer

Key Stage 2 (Year 5 and Year 6 Pupils)

We have been notified that several pupils have tested positive for coronavirus (COVID-19) at our school. Your child has been identified as someone who is likely to have had contact with these individuals as part of a class or group.

The purpose of this letter is to inform you of the current situation, and to advise you on what to do next. We are monitoring the situation closely and are working with our local Public Health team to put temporary, additional measures in place to help to reduce the risk of onward transmission within our setting.

The Public Health team has advised that, **as a precaution, all pupils within this group should book a PCR test as soon as possible**. Your child can continue to attend school whilst waiting for their result, **unless they develop symptoms of COVID-19**.

Please see the enclosed local Parent/Carer Flowchart for further information on:

- **What to do if your child develops symptoms of COVID-19, or tests positive for COVID-19**
- **Instructions for people who live in the same household as someone who has tested positive for COVID-19, or who is symptomatic and is waiting for a PCR test result**
- **Information on self-isolation**

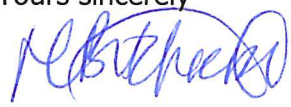
The following measures will also help to reduce the risk of you, and anyone you live with becoming ill with COVID-19:

- get vaccinated – everyone aged 18 and over can book COVID-19 vaccination appointments now . Those who are 16 or 17 years old can get vaccinated at a drop-in site. See https://www.blmkccg.nhs.uk/drop-in for clinic locations and times.
- wash your hands with soap and water or use hand sanitiser regularly throughout the day
- 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
- meet people outside and avoid crowded areas
- open doors and windows to let in fresh air if meeting people inside
- wear a face covering when it's hard to stay away from other people – particularly indoors or in crowded places

- participate in twice weekly LFD testing following national guidelines (recommended for 11 years and over). We encourage you to log your results here: https://www.gov.uk/log-test-site-covid19-results

Further information is available at: https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/

Yours sincerely



Miss Z J Linington
Headteacher

COVID-19 Guidance for Parents/Carers in Central Bedfordshire Education Settings: 01.09.21

For any **SUSPECTED** or **CONFIRMED** case of COVID-19 in a young person please follow the flow chart below.

SUSPECTED case – i.e., if young person has COVID-19 symptoms

Key symptoms:

- A new continuous cough and/or
- high temperature and/or
- a loss of, or change in, normal sense of taste or smell (anosmia).

Additional symptoms that may be early warning signs of COVID-19 in children include: upset stomach, headache, sore throat, unusual fatigue.

Take a **PCR test** as soon as possible.
Book online via the website:
www.nhs.uk/coronavirus
Alternatively a PCR test can be ordered by phone on: **NHS 119** for those without access to the internet.

Ensure young person isolates at home **until PCR test result is known.**

***Who else needs to isolate?**

The rest of the household does not need to isolate if they are :

- Under 18yrs and 6 months *and/or*
- Double vaccinated, **at least 14 days since the 2nd dose** *and/or*
- Part of a COVID-19 Vaccine trial *and/or*
- Cannot have a COVID-19 vaccine for medical reasons (as confirmed by a medical professional).

If none of the above apply, then the household contacts must isolate until PCR test result is known.

Result of test
(Notify setting as soon as possible)

NEGATIVE

Young person can return to setting once well.
Any household contacts can stop isolating*.

POSITIVE

CONFIRMED case following a Positive PCR Test

Positive PCR Test Result

Inform the setting of positive PCR test result. Young person must self-isolate for 10 days.

The rest of the household does not need to isolate if they are:

- Under 18yrs and 6 months *and/or*
- Double vaccinated, **at least 14 days since the 2nd dose** *and/or*
- Part of a COVID-19 vaccine trial *and/or*
- Cannot have a COVID-19 vaccine for medical reasons (as confirmed by a medical professional).

If none of the above apply, then the household contacts must isolate for 10 days.

CONFIRMED case following a Positive LFD Test

Positive LFD Test Result

Inform setting of positive LFD test result
Take a PCR test **WITHIN 2 DAYS** of positive LFD test result. Book online at:
www.nhs.uk/coronavirus
or phone **NHS 119**
Young person and eligible close contacts* must self-isolate whilst waiting for the PCR test result.

Negative PCR Test Result

Young person and eligible close contacts* can stop isolation and can return to the setting.
Restart twice-weekly LFD home testing in secondary school-aged pupils.

Ensure young person isolates at home for **10 days**, along with any members of their household who are **over 18 yrs & 6 months and have not had 2× COVID-19 vaccines.***
For **symptomatic cases,** the **day the symptoms began is DAY 0;**
You need to add 10 further days after DAY 0.
For **asymptomatic cases** the **date of the test is DAY 0;**
You need to add 10 further days after DAY 0.

Isolation ends at midnight on Day 10. The young person can return to the setting, if well, and any eligible household members* can stop isolating.
If the young person still has a fever, diarrhoea or is being sick, they should continue to isolate until 48hrs after symptoms have ended - as per sickness protocol in the setting.

If anyone else in the household becomes unwell and tests positive for COVID-19, they will need to isolate for the required period of time, as directed on receipt of their test result.
If any other members of the household have been isolating*, and remain well, they will **not need to extend their isolation period** after completing the 10 days.

- **We continue to ask families/young people to wash hands regularly, keep spaces well ventilated, and to wear face masks in crowded, public, indoor areas.**
- **Face masks should continue to be worn on transport to and from education settings.**
- **LFD test:** A Lateral Flow Device test is rapid test that can be used at home, and the result is available after 30 minutes.
- **PCR test:** A Polymerase Chain Reaction test can be booked online and is sent to a lab for the result.
- If you have recently (**within 90 days**) had a positive PCR test for COVID-19, you are exempt from testing by both PCR and LFD, **unless you develop new symptoms.**
- LFD tests are used for identifying COVID-19 infections where there are no symptoms, and should **not** be used if you have any symptoms.
- LFD tests are safe to use in pregnancy.
- If you have had a COVID-19 vaccination, you should still take part in LFD testing as you may still transmit the virus.
- If you have been identified as an eligible, close contact* of a positive case, **a negative LFD test does not mean that you can stop isolating.**
- If you have had a recent nosebleed, or have a nose piercing, use the other nostril to swab for the LFD test.