



Monday 16th November 2020

Community notification of Sensory Inclusion Hub closure for extended self-isolation

Dear Parent Carers,

I am writing to let our school community know that on Saturday evening we were notified of another confirmed case of COVID-19 within the Sensory Inclusion Hub. This is the second positive case, both asymptomatic (no signs of covid-19) and are within the same bubble. There is no way of knowing if the cases have been transmitted while at school, or from their home community. However as a precautionary measure, Public Health have advised that the Hub be treated as an extended bubble in this circumstance, and is closed to isolate for 14 days.

This follows our Hub closure on Friday to deep clean the entire area, not just the usual measures to deep clean the immediate areas which will have had direct contact with the positive case.

We understand that these uncertain times are likely to cause additional worries and concerns, particularly for the children and young people who are based in the Hub. Please be assured that we are working closely with Public Health and the Local Authority to ensure that our measures are as effective as can be to ensure our school environments continue to be Covid secure.

Covid-19 testing for the Hub

Leaders from the academy worked through Saturday evening to close the Hub and inform parent carers at the earliest opportunity. To support the class group bubble who have been directly affected, Covid tests were sourced from school and delivered to the pupils of the affected class group. We thank families for their support in getting a clearer picture of the situation by testing their children in this way as none are showing any symptoms of Covid-19 (thankfully).

This strategy was agreed by Public Health in this circumstance and we hope to be able to source more Covid-19 tests to offer to the families of the other two class groups in the next few days.

This is for information only, so **you do not need to do anything at this stage**. We will keep you informed of any changes/ updates.

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.

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 staying at home for 14 days will greatly reduce the overall amount of infection the household could pass on to others in the community.

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Everyone valued. Everyone included. Everyone learning.

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.

Please email sarah.downes@severndaleacademy.co.uk, your class teacher or department lead if your child tests positive for Covid-19.

Symptoms of COVID 19

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

- A 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. Most people with coronavirus have at least 1 of these symptoms.

If your child does develop symptoms, you can seek advice from NHS 119 at <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/check-if-you-have-coronavirus-symptoms/> or by phoning 119.

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 (with 60% alcohol) 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

In light of recent Covid related issues that we have encountered, we have reviewed and added to our Covid-19 risk assessment. This is attached electronically and available on our website.

Please let your class teacher know if you have any problems/ difficulties, and we will do what we can to support your individual needs and overcome any challenges you face in partnership.

Kind Regards,

Sabrina Hobbs

Principal