

17 December 2020

Dear Parents/Carers

We have been advised by Public Health England that there have been two confirmed cases of COVID-19 within the school.

We appreciate you will be concerned about the safety and welfare of the children, but please be assured our Risk Assessment and procedures are robust. They are reviewed on a weekly basis and we will complete the process again following recent events.

One case involves a Year 7 student but as they have not been in school since 9 November 2020 no further action needs to be taken.

The other involves a member of staff and we will notify the close contacts by the end of the day as these students will need to self-isolate.

We have discussed the circumstances with the Essex Test and Trace Team. They have advised us there is no requirement to close the school. This is due to the various control measures we have in place.

Please be reassured that for most people, coronavirus (COVID-19) will be a mild illness.

The school remains open and your child should continue to attend if they remain well.

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.

If your child tests positive for COVID-19 all household members who remain well, must stay at home and not leave the house for 14 days from when your child's symptoms first appeared. This includes anyone in your 'Support Bubble.'

If your child tests negative, your child can return to school if they are well enough to do so and all other household members do not need to continue to self-isolate at home.

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

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.

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/>

Informing the school about a positive Covid-19 test

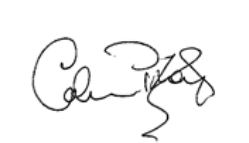
During the week either telephone the school or send an email to the Main Office (office@ramseyacademy.com).

During out of school hours including the weekend send an email to the Main Office, but also include Mr James (rjames@ramseyacdemy.com) and Mr Leys (cleys@ramseyacademy.com). One of us will contact you as soon as possible to discuss the specific details.

Yours faithfully



R James
Executive Headteacher



C Leys
Head of School