



12th December 2020

Year 11 Bubble – Notification to Self-Isolate

Dear Parent/Carer,

I am sorry to have to inform you that we have been notified of a confirmed case of COVID-19 within the school.

Today we were informed of a confirmed case within the Year 11 Bubble. In line with the national guidance and following our consultation with the Department for Education, your child is advised to self-isolate for 14 days since the last contact with the confirmed case. The date of last contact with a confirmed case is day zero. This would have been on Thursday 10th December. The 14 day self-isolation period will end on Friday 25th December 2020. I am aware that the media have reported that the self-isolation period is reduced to 10 days. However, today, the DFE told me that there has been no official announcement on this and the current 14 day isolation period remains. If this changes, we will advise you as soon as possible.

If your child was absent from school on the 9th and 10th December or they are in the SEN or LEAP Bubble, they do not need to self-isolate and should continue attending school.

If your child is well at the end of the 14 day period, they will be able to end their self-isolation and mix with others outside of their household in line with the restrictions in place at the time. Other members of your household can continue normal activities provided your child does not develop symptoms within the 14 day self-isolation period.

As you will be aware, the School is very well prepared for this scenario. Classwork will be set on Google Classroom which students have been taught how to use. Lesson structures will closely match those in school and students should **complete their normal school timetable from home**. You should expect your child to complete a normal full day of work following their normal timetabled lessons; including assembly and tutor time. Work will be expected to be submitted and will be checked and marked in line with our normal school policies. Students will be issued with STEP points for work completed to a good standard and demerits for any work which is lacking. Teachers will present via Loom Videos or narrated powerpoints and there may also be some live lessons using Google Meet where the teacher deems this appropriate.

Please can I ask you to contact the school straight away and speak to Mrs Chin (Pastoral Support Manager for Year 11) or Mr Mason (Assistant Head) if your child is having any difficulties with accessing or completing the work set so that this can be resolved swiftly. Students can also still email their teachers or contact them through the Google Classroom

I know you will understand that Year 11 is a crucial year in learning and this further period of remote learning is extremely frustrating for us all. However, unfortunately it is unavoidable at this stage. The School is doing everything it can to ensure continuity of education during this disrupted period and we appreciate your support with this. We hope that things will start to change as the vaccine is rolled out and will also look to see if more refined contact tracing could be possible in future.

If your child does not have access to an individual computer or laptop to work on throughout the day at home, please contact Mrs Rust (Assistant Headteacher). We are able to lend devices to any Year 11 students where this is needed. Please note that all work will be set and submitted online and so please contact Mrs Rust if you have any issues with this and we will do all we can to support access.

Please see the link to the PHE Staying at Home Guidance:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-stay-at-home-guidance/stay-at-home-guidance-for-households-with-possible-coronavirus-covid-19-infection>

What to do if your child develops symptoms of COVID 19

If your child develops symptoms arrange for a COVID test. This can be done via <https://www.nhs.uk/ask-for-a-coronavirus-test> or by calling 119.

If their test is negative they must still continue to self-isolate for the 14 day period, regardless of the negative test result.

If their test is positive they will need to self-isolate for **10 days** from the date when their symptoms start. All your household members must self-isolate for 14 days.

The date of symptom onset is day zero.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-stay-at-home-guidance/stay-at-home-guidance-for-households-with-possible-coronavirus-covid-19-infection>.

General COVID information

Symptoms

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

- recent onset of new continuous cough or
- high temperature 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 you are concerned about your child's health or the health of anyone else in your house please seek advice from your GP or NHS 111 by phoning 111.

There are things you can do to reduce the risk of getting COVID-19:

- 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/>

Of course, we are disappointed to be in this situation, again with Year 11, but I know you will understand that it is unavoidable. I hope your child and your family remain well. Please do not hesitate to get in contact if you have any concerns, queries or questions. You can contact the usual staff or myself directly at head@lealands.luton.sch.uk.

Yours sincerely



John Burridge
Headteacher