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7th November 2020

Dear Parent/Carer

I need to share with you some information concerning a visitor to Rowhill School who has tested positive for Covid-19. The visitor delivers a behaviour- sporting mentoring programme for some of our Transition Hub pupils.

The member of staff was last in school on Tuesday 3rd November 2020. They developed symptoms the next day so went for a test and was confirmed as being positive on Thursday evening. In line with DfE protocols I have contacted Public Health England for advice. They then passed me on to Public Health England (South East team).

#### **Outcome of the advice.**

**We spoke about the external behaviour therapist who tested positive for covid after he had visited the school.**

**Below I clarify what is a closed contact.**

**You described the children who had been in contact with him, the members of staff we discussed and the guidance below should help to confirm if they are close contacts.**

**If contacts they should isolate for 14 days from the time of contact.**

- **Close contact means:**
  - **direct close contacts - face to face contact with an infected individual for any length of time, within 1 metre, including being coughed on, a face to face conversation, or unprotected physical contact (skin-to-skin);**
  - **proximity contacts - extended close contact (within 1 to 2 metres for more than 15 minutes) with an infected individual;**
  - **travelling in a small vehicle, like a car, with an infected person.**

Three pupils and three members of staff who came into with the infected person have been told to self-isolate for 14 days and to get a test if they develop symptoms. At this present moment none of the contacts have developed any symptoms.

#### **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. 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'.

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 or anyone in the household does develop symptoms, you can seek advice from NHS 111 at <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/check-if-you-have-coronavirus-symptoms/> 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** is available at <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/>

As always thank you for all of your support during these difficult times. It is very much appreciated.

Yours sincerely

Geoff Bartrum

Head Teacher