



**THE DEAN
ACADEMY**

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Richard Brand, Headteacher

17th December 2020

Dear Parent/Carer

I know there has been significant concern about the confirmation that we had a positive case at The Dean Academy. Let me start by stating that I can understand your anxiety, particularly as we are so close to Christmas.

Importantly, we traced back through the movements of the person who has tested positive as soon as we were made aware of the result. They were not in school this week apart from Monday. As such, based on their movements, and being directed by Public Health England there are only 3 people who have been notified to isolate.

I cannot go into specifics as I am not allowed. But please be assured that if there was a larger risk, I would have sent more students/staff home. But in this case, the need to self-isolate only extends to 3 members of our community – because they are classed as close contacts. Close contacts are defined as:

- Face-to-face contact including being coughed on or having a face-to-face conversation within one metre
- Been within one metre for one minute or longer without face-to-face contact
- Been within 2 metres of someone for more than 15 minutes (either as a one-off contact, or added up together over one day)

It is a shame that this has finally happened, particularly as we were so close to the end of term and the Christmas break was in sight. But unfortunately, we have to follow the guidelines, take advice, and follow the protocols without question. I am still thankful that our safety measures are largely working well, and we have managed to minimise disruption until this point.

Please see the letter I sent yesterday which has more details. May I take the opportunity to thank you and your families for your ongoing support in these challenging circumstances.

Yours sincerely

Richard Brand
Headteacher

