

11<sup>th</sup> January 2021

**For the information of parents/carers of any students who were in school last week only**

Dear Parent/Carers

Yesterday, we were made aware of a single member of our school community who has tested positive for COVID-19. The colleague who tested positive for COVID-19 was in school on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> January only, so very few students were on site (only keyworker students) and we have communicated with these families. In addition, this colleague followed the on-site safety measures fully including social distancing / wearing a face covering and, as such, when taking advice from Public Health England they have advised that no other members of the school would be classed as a “close contact”.

Close contacts are defined as someone who:

- has been within 2 metres of someone who has tested positive for COVID-19 for more than 15 minutes
- has had face-to-face contact (within one metre), including:
  - being coughed on
  - having skin-to-skin physical contact, or
  - contact within one metre for one minute

As such, Public Health England have indicated that in this case no further action is required. However, we will continue with our Lateral Flow serial testing programme on-site for the next seven days to identify if there are any further asymptomatic students or staff.

We know that you may find this concerning, but we are continuing to monitor the situation and are working closely with Public Health England. This letter is to inform you of the current situation and provide advice on how to support your child. Please be reassured that for most people, coronavirus (COVID-19) will be a mild illness.

Important note: The vast majority of our student community will be unaffected by this as they have been learning from home since Monday 4<sup>th</sup> January. The school site remains closed to all students except KW/V students.

**What to do if your child develops symptoms of COVID 19**

If your child develops symptoms of COVID-19, they must self-isolate 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.

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 10-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 10 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**





Church Road, Lydney  
Gloucestershire, GL15 5DZ  
T: 01594 843202  
F: 01594 842025  
E: [info@thedeacademy.org](mailto:info@thedeacademy.org)  
[www.thedeacademy.org](http://www.thedeacademy.org)

Richard Brand: Headteacher

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/>

Thank you for your understanding and support in this matter.

Yours sincerely

**Richard Brand**  
Headteacher

RIB/TW – on site testing for kwv students-110221



A company limited by guarantee, registered in England & Wales, as The Athelstan Trust  
Company No: 7699625