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Richard Brand: Headteacher

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Dear Parent/ Carer

We have become aware of two further students have tested positive for CV-19 over the weekend. One child in year 7 has had a confirmed positive PCR test. Another child in year 10 has had a positive lateral flow test and we are awaiting the results of the PCR. These positive cases can be traced back to an event on Tuesday evening in the local community. We have conducted a thorough risk assessment with Gloucestershire Council Public Health team to identify a small number of close contacts for both cases and these students have been asked to isolate immediately (either for 10 days, or as a precautionary measure whilst waiting for the results of the PCR). The parents/carers of pupils and/or staff members identified as close contacts will be notified in a separate communication regarding the isolation period.

Whilst I fully understand this will cause anxiety amongst The Dean Academy community, I can assure you all necessary steps are being taken to minimise risk to others, to cause the least disruption possible and to support all those affected. If your child is not isolating, and able to attend school tomorrow, please ensure they take a lateral flow test **tonight** to identify any asymptomatic cases. In addition we encourage students who may feel more comfortable to wear a face covering when walking to and from lessons indoors.

In the event your child develops symptoms please see information below on action to take and how to prevent any further spread.

What to do if your child or another member of the household develops symptoms of COVID 19?

If your child or another member of the household develops symptoms of COVID-19, they should arrange a test via <https://www.nhs.uk/ask-for-a-coronavirus-test> or by calling 119 and remain at home with the rest of the household while waiting for the result.

If the test is positive, the individual will need to isolate for at least 10 days from the date when their symptoms appeared. All other household members must also stay at home and not leave the house for 10 days. This includes anyone in your 'Support Bubble' – defined here - <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/making-a-support-bubble-with-another-household>. The 10-day period starts from the day when the first person in the house became ill with coronavirus symptoms.

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 possible, 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.

Please see the link to the PHE 'Stay 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>

Symptoms of COVID 19

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

- new continuous cough and/or
- high temperature and/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 your child 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

Further information is available at

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/>

Yours sincerely



Richard Brand
Headteacher

