

Executive Principal: Mrs Ruth Holden, MA, NPQH

Monday 5th July 2021

Dear Parent/Carer of students in 8B and some students from 8A and 8C,

We are sorry to inform you that today, we have been informed by Public Health England that there has been a single confirmed case of COVID-19 of a Year 8 student in 8B. Year 8 have been, since the start of term, in a bubble, as have all year groups.

We have followed the national guidance and as your child is in 8B or could have been in contact with the affected child, as a precaution we have made the decision for all students in 8B and any students who may have come into contact with this student from 8A and 8C, to stay at home until **Sunday 11th July**. They should self – isolate. We are doing this to reduce the further spread of COVID 19 to others in the community.

Students should return as normal on **Monday 12th July**. We will update you regularly and all students will follow their normal timetable at home on Microsoft Teams and will be taught by their usual teachers. We will provide you with further information about this and will also be providing work packs as well as remote learning.

The school has followed Government guidelines strictly and carefully since students have been back at school this term. Students have been kept strictly in a year group bubble for lessons and social time and have not been with students in other year groups.

If your child is well on **Monday 12th July** they should return to school as normal. Other members of your household can continue normal activities provided your child does not develop symptoms within the 10 day self-isolation period.

Please see the link to: Guidance for contacts of people with confirmed coronavirus (COVID-19) infection who do not live with the person.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/guidance-for-contacts-of-people-with-possible-or-confirmed-coronavirus-covid-19-infection-who-do-not-live-with-the-person>

What to do if your child develops symptoms of COVID 19

If your child develops symptoms of COVID-19, they 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. Please contact the school to inform us of their test results.

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'.

The 10-day period starts from the day when the first person in the house became ill.

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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 to, 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 this is advised.

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/>

You can also contact my Personal Assistant by email cpitts@mulberryschools.trust.org

Thank you again for your support during these challenging times.

Yours faithfully



Mrs Ruth Holden
Executive Principal