

Our Ref: LHA/AH

15th July 2021

Dear Parent and Carers of pupils in Year 8.

Following yesterday's communication regarding the need for Year 8 to work remotely for Thursday 15th and Friday 16th, I am writing to provide you with an update in relation to Covid-19 cases in the year group and action required.

We have been informed that three pupils in Year 8 have received positive LFT Covid-19 home test results. We are awaiting the results of confirmatory PCR tests from these pupils. As a precautionary measure in line with the national guidance, we ask that your child now stays at home and self-isolates up to and including Saturday 24th July 2021 unless the PCR result for the pupils mentioned are subsequently negative meaning self-isolation can end. If the PCR tests come back positive for one or two of the pupils and not all three, we will seek further guidance from Public Health England and be in touch with who should self-isolate. We will also update the date for when self-isolation should end based on this information. If all three PCR tests are subsequently negative, your child will be able to return to school and we will inform those affected of this. Please note that PCR test results are taking longer than usual to come back due to high demand in the area. This message applies for the whole Year group bubble at present due to the number of positive LFT Covid-19 tests we have received.

**We will support pupils learning and working from home and your child is expected to log into teams every day for remote learning and they will follow their usual timetable.

We are asking you to do this to reduce the further spread of COVID 19 to others in the community. If your child is well at the end of the 10 day period of self-isolation, then they can return to usual activities and return to school. 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. All other household members who remain well must stay at home and not leave the house for 10 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. 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. 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:

- 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

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Lara Hall'.

Lara Hall
Principal

Mrs L Hall – Principal
The Nuneaton Academy
Radnor Drive, Nuneaton, Warwickshire CV10 7PD
Telephone: 02476 341134

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