

23rd October 2020

Positive Cases of Covid-19 in Marriotts School - Update

Dear Parents/Carers,

Further to my letter yesterday, I have now liaised with Public Health England, and we have been able to narrow down the number of students who are required to self-isolate. I can confirm the following information:

- One student in Year 7 tested positive on 22nd October. 30 students and 0 staff were identified as close contacts and will isolate until 28th October, returning to normal on 29th October
- One student in Year 9 tested positive on 22nd October. 46 students and 0 staff were identified as close contacts and will isolate until 2nd of November, returning to normal on 3rd November
- One student in Year 11 tested positive on 22nd October. 48 students and 0 staff were identified as close contacts and will isolate until 3rd November, returning to normal on 4th November
- Any students already isolating due to previous cases, who were also identified as close contacts with the new cases have been asked to extend their period of isolation accordingly

The School is following the national guidance and liaising with the relevant external bodies. All students who are required to self-isolate for 14 days from the last point of close contact with the positive students have been contacted separately.

Unless you have been sent a communication advising you to self-isolate, all students should return to school as normal on Monday 2nd November.

I know that you will find this matter 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. Please be reassured that for most people, coronavirus (COVID-19) will be a mild illness.

What to do if your child develops symptoms of COVID 19

If your child develops symptoms of COVID-19, they must not come to school 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.

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'.

Further information is available at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-stay-at-homeguidance/stay-at-home-guidance-for-households-with-possible-coronavirus-covid-19-infection>



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In Partnership with:



The 14-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 14 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 or anyone in the household 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/>

If you have any queries regarding this letter, please contact the Headteacher b.honor@marriotts.herts.sch.uk and copy in her PA i.pisano@marriotts.herts.sch.uk Thank you for your support and understanding.

Yours sincerely



Ms B Honor, Headteacher