



The Arnewood School

11 – 19 Academy

Working Together - Shaping Tomorrow

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12th November 2020

Dear Parents/Carer

Re: Further Positive COVID Test

We have been made aware that we have a further confirmed positive case of coronavirus (COVID-19) in a student attending The Arnewood School. The student tested positive following a community test and was immediately self-isolated by their parents who followed the correct procedure and notified the school promptly to safeguard others. This is a new case to those identified last week. All cases so far have been in different year group bubbles and the individuals concerned are not related. Speaking with other local secondary and primary headteachers, our experience is not unusual compared to other schools.

This letter is sent on the instruction for the Department for Education hence its standard format. 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.

The small number of children who have been in close contact with the individual who has tested positive for coronavirus (COVID-19) have received a letter, in addition to this one, informing them that their child must stay at home for 14 days.

The school remains open and your child should continue to attend as normal if they remain well and have not been told to self-isolate.

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-home-guidance/stay-at-home-guidance-for-households-with-possible-coronavirus-covid-19-infection>

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 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

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/>

Reporting COVID Within Your Support Bubble

As you will have read in my letter to parents/carers last week, we have set up a new email address, covid@arnewood.hants.sch.uk via which you must report: -

- that a member of your household has booked a test
- the results of a test
- your son/daughter is symptomatic (see above) and not attending school.

This email address will be monitored by a number of staff to ensure that we can respond to protect others. Please include your child's name, tutor group, and a contact phone number.

Yours sincerely

N. M. Pressnell

N. Pressnell
Headteacher