



Horsforth School

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Headteacher: Dr P C Bell

Our Ref: PCB/TRH

18th November 2020

Dear parents / carers,

I am writing to advise you that two members of our school community in your son/daughter's Year Group has tested positive for COVID-19. Neither cases are connected from the evidence we have seen.

We would not normally inform you in this detail as we are obliged to keep the details of circumstances and identity of students who test positive confidential but the circumstances are unusual and have led to some misunderstandings.

Both Year 11 students took part in random testing programmes. Both Year 11 students have shown no symptoms whatsoever so whilst they have been in school waiting for the result of a test they have done nothing wrong as they have had no idea they had COVID or showed any symptoms.

We know that you may find this concerning but we are continuing to monitor the situation and are working closely with Public Health advisors. 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 staff and children who have been in direct prolonged contact with the confirmed case will have received an individual letter and will be self-isolating.

The other household members of this wider group do not need to self-isolate unless the child or staff member they live with subsequently develops symptoms.

The school remains open and unless your child was identified as a close contact yesterday they should continue to attend if they remain well, unless they are showing any of the following symptoms of COVID-19:

- a high temperature – this means they feel hot to touch on their chest or back, and/or
- a new, continuous cough – this means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or three or more coughing episodes in 24 hours, and/or
- a loss of, or change in, their normal sense of taste or smell (anosmia).

If your child shows any of these symptoms they should not attend school for at least 10 days after the onset of symptoms, and everyone else in your household should self-isolate for 14 days. Your child should also be tested for COVID-19, ideally within the first five days of having symptoms. Please see the NHS.UK website for more information on testing: <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/testing-for-coronavirus/ask-for-a-test-to-check-if-you-have-coronavirus/>

Please contact school immediately if your child receives a positive test result. We have been advised by the DfE that where a child (who is COVID positive) is due to return to school after their self-isolation has elapsed they must not

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do so if they have had a temperature in the 48 hour period beforehand. Once the child's temperature returns to normal they may return to school even if they have a cough or are still experiencing loss of taste.

If you are concerned about your child's health, please refer to the NHS 111 website or telephone NHS 111 or your GP. <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/check-if-you-have-coronavirus-symptoms/>

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>

The safety and welfare of all our staff and children remains our top priority. We continue to undertake thorough cleaning around the whole school and a deep clean will be carried out in the appropriate areas of school following this positive case.

If you would like to speak to someone, or have any further questions, please email info@horsforthschool.org

With kind regards,

Dr P C Bell
Headteacher