

26 April 2021

Dear Stakeholders (Learners, Parents/Carers, Staff, Apprentices and Employers),

### Single confirmed case of COVID-19 – Year 10

We have been informed today of a single, positive COVID-19 result from a Year 10 Learner.

The small number of learners who have been in direct prolonged contact with the confirmed case have all been informed and will be staying at home for 10 days as per current government guidance. Please note that it remains vital for the protection of the college community, that twice weekly lateral flow tests are taken and that the result, whether negative or positive is recorded on the college's Covid 19 Hub and with NHS Test and Trace.

The college remains open, and your child should continue to attend if they remain well.

This is the first confirmed case in our College in four months, and was highlighted via a home lateral flow test. We are really pleased that that this person was taking regular home tests which, if they had not been, then they would not have known they had COVID (because they had no symptoms) and would have come into College and potentially caused a spread. Therefore, it is a good example of why it is so important for everyone to be regularly taking their home tests twice a week, and reporting the results to us immediately using the COVID HUB on our website [click here](#).

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. Please be reassured that for most people, coronavirus (COVID-19) will be a mild illness.

#### **What to do if you or someone in your household develops symptoms of COVID 19**

If you or someone in your household develops symptoms of COVID-19, they must not come to college 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 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/>

Yours sincerely,



**Geoffrey Fowler**  
CEO & Principal