



Tring School

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9 October 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

I am writing ahead of the Prime Minister's announcement of tighter restrictions for England on Monday. We will have to wait and review the implications for our local area and school next week.

As a school, we are working on the considerations we will need to make to support students with their learning should the need arise that a year group has to isolate. Of course, this is the last thing we want to happen but if we are instructed to do so we must have systems in place that we can continue your child's learning at home uninterrupted. During the lockdown, we continued with online learning for every lesson and this would be our intention again. However, we went to ensure that all students have access to the technology they need to receive the learning we provide. We are aware that some families' provisions may have changed and equally we have Year 7 students new to the school. We've put together a survey to identify what resources are available for students whilst at home which can be accessed following [this link](#). We will be grateful if you could fill this in by **Friday 16 October**.

The following groups of students are able to access in-school provision in the case of a lockdown; children with an EHCP, is classified as a 'looked after child' or children of key workers. If you are a key worker it is also important we know which key role this falls under. If you are unsure if you are a key worker, please see the full list [here](#).

To ensure we can plan appropriately, we need to know if you are eligible for in-school provision for your child. We understand that some families prefer their child/ren to study at home due to their age or other circumstances. If your child falls into any of the three categories listed above, please complete this short google form to provide this information - [Questionnaire](#).

Earlier in the week, I wrote to you regarding the positive Covid case with a student in the Sixth Form. The student is safe and well and has mild symptoms and is naturally isolating. Since then a further student who had been in the vicinity of the previous student has also tested positive. This means that we have two positive cases within the same year group.

Please be assured that we are following the strict guidance provided for schools by Hertfordshire County Council's Public Health Team.

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Students and staff will only be asked to isolate if they have been in close contact with a positive case. All of our safety measures and risk assessments endeavour to ensure that all others can remain in school.

HCC Contact definitions

A 'contact' is a person who has been close to someone who has tested positive for coronavirus whilst they were infectious (see 'Infectious Period' below). The following criteria should be used when defining a contact of a case:

i) Direct close contacts: Direct face to face to face contact with a case for any length of time, including being coughed on or talked to. This will also include exposure within 1 metre for 1 minute or longer,

ii) Proximity contacts: Extended close contact (within 1-2m for more than 15 minutes) with a case, or

iii) Travelled in a small vehicle with a case or bigger van/transport where social distancing was not maintained

Infectious Period: from 48 hrs prior to symptom onset to 10 days after, or 48 hrs prior to test if asymptomatic.

As a result of this situation within our Year 12 and 13 Bubble, we have asked all students who have been in two classes, namely 12B Drama and 12C Psychology to now isolate.

For the remaining two weeks before the half-term break (12 October - 23 October inclusive), ALL Year 12 and 13 students should only come into school for timetabled lessons only. Students should report to classrooms directly, avoiding all communal areas. Contact with staff outside of lessons should be by timetable only. Students will have plenty of private study to complete at home.

In addition, all Year 12 and 13 students and teachers will now be required to wear a face-covering at all times in school during this two week period.

I am sure that this pattern will re-occur over the next few weeks and months, whereby students in different year groups may contract the virus. Each situation will be dealt with based on the context of the individual case and therefore, actions and response may vary.

Thank you again for your continued support in these most difficult and uncertain times.

Kind regards

Sally Ambrose
Head of School