



Ryecroft C.E. Middle School

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2nd July 2021

Advice for parents/carers following a single confirmed case in school

Dear Parent/Carer,

We have been very fortunate (in comparison to schools around us), to have reached this far without any positive cases. It was always going to happen eventually and sadly yesterday we were advised that there has been a single confirmed case of Covid-19 within our school.

We have followed Public Health England (PHE) guidance and are working closely with PHE and the Staffordshire Local Outbreak Team. In line with the guidance, we took the decision to close Year 7 for 14 days. All children from this year group are isolating at home and will be returning to on-line virtual lessons for this period.

The rest of the school remains open, and providing your child remains well and shows no symptoms of Covid-19, they should continue to attend school as normal.

We know this news may cause concern and that you may have questions as a result of reading this letter. Please be assured we are closely following all guidance from Public Health England to keep our school as safe as possible and that the safety of our children and staff is our number one priority.

We have strong systems and procedures in place to safeguard pupils and staff. Due to the measures we have in place your child has not had contact with the confirmed case.

What to do if your child develops symptoms of Covid-19

If your child develops symptoms of Covid-19, **you should arrange for your child to be tested** through the [NHS online portal www.nhs.uk](https://www.nhs.uk) or by calling 119. All members of your household should then isolate for as long as you are advised to do so. **Please do not request a test unless your child develops symptoms.** Just in case they do test positive, it would be extremely helpful if they could make a list of anyone they have sat next to, travelled to school with, spent time with at break/lunch, or anyone who they think could have come into closer contact with them for 2 days prior to the symptoms starting.

Symptoms of Covid-19

If your child has any of these symptoms, get a test as soon as possible. Visit: www.nhs.uk/coronavirus. If you are unable to use the webpage, call 119. DO NOT call 111 to try and book a test.

- **a high temperature** – where your child feels hot to touch on their chest or back
- **or a new, continuous cough** – this means coughing a lot, for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours
- **or a loss or change to sense of smell or taste** – this means they cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal

For most children, coronavirus (COVID-19) will be a mild illness.

How to stop Covid-19 spreading

Remember there are things you can do to help reduce the risk of you and anyone you live with getting ill with Covid-19. It is everyone's responsibility to do the right thing.

HANDS, FACE, SPACE:

- Wash your hands regularly
- *Wear a face covering in all shops, indoor and hospitality venues, on public transport and taxis
- Keep your distance from others

*Exemptions include: children under the age of 11, people with breathing difficulties and people living with a disability.

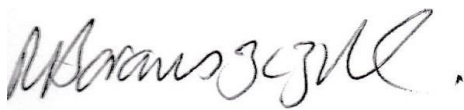
Further information

Further information is available at www.nhs.uk

If you have any worries or questions please do not hesitate to contact us.

As always, thank you for your understanding and support with this.

Yours sincerely



Miss R Baramuszcza
Headteacher

