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Dear Parents and Carers

I am writing to inform you that we have received confirmation that a staff member within our school community has tested positive for COVID-19 and your child has been identified as a close contact of the person concerned. Following government, Local Authority and Public Health guidance the individual concerned and their family has already started household isolation.

In line with government direction, your child and other learners in year 7 have been identified as close contacts and will now need to self-isolate with immediate effect until midnight on Tuesday 3rd Nov 2020. This is a period of 14 days from when they last had contact with the person affected. We look forward to welcoming your child back into school on Wednesday 4th November 2020. If your child in Y7 has any brothers or sisters in another year group at our school or any other school/college, they can still go to school unless they or someone in your household develops symptoms.

The main symptoms of COVID-19 include:

- **a high temperature** – this means they may feel hot to touch on their chest or back (you do not need to take their temperature with a thermometer)
- **a new, continuous cough** – this means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours (if they usually have a cough, it may be worse than usual)
- **a loss or change to their sense of smell or taste** – this means they may tell you that they cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different.

Should your child, or other household members start to develop symptoms of COVID-19 please arrange to get them tested.

To book a free COVID-19 test, visit the NHS website or phone the NHS on 119:

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/testing-and-tracing/get-a-test-to-check-if-you-have-coronavirus/>

You can get a test at a testing site, or by asking for a home testing kit.

I can assure you that our school is very careful to make sure everyone follows Government, Local Authority and Public Health guidance for cleaning, hygiene and social distancing.

In the event of your child or a member of your household developing symptoms or testing positive please inform the school immediately.

Our school is still open to all other children unless previously notified of the need to self-isolate.

Information about coronavirus (COVID-19) is available on the government website:
<https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus>



Your child will have immediate access (on the first full day following self-isolation) to continuing education and details to support you as a family will be issued by email.

We realise that this is an anxious time for our families and would like to reassure you that the health, safety and wellbeing of our young people and staff is our core priority. We thank you for your continued support.

Yours sincerely

Loz Wilson
Headteacher

