



# Bassingbourn Village College

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**Ms V Poulter**  
**Principal**

18<sup>th</sup> November 2020

Dear Parent/Carers,

I have been informed this afternoon that two members of our community are undergoing a test for COVID 19 and I feel it is highly likely this will result in positive results. The identity of these individuals remains confidential but I am aware there may well be some anxiety around having two potential positive cases. I would like to reassure you that we have been rigorous in our actions. I have asked as a precaution, that staff and students that have been in close contact with these individuals, self-isolate while we wait for the results, even though at this stage they are not positive results.

Be confident we are continuing to monitor the situation and as you would expect, we are working closely with Public Health England. This letter is to inform you of the current situation and to provide you advice on how to support your child. I do feel it is important to remember that for most people, coronavirus (COVID-19) will be a mild illness.

If you have not received an email or a phone call today be confident this does not impact your child and this letter is for information purposes.

The school remains open and your child should continue to attend as normal if they remain well. We continue to ask you to support us by ensuring your child wears a face masks when moving around the site, both inside and out.

This information has not been shared with the whole student community as I feel this would cause alarm and create heightened anxiety for some. We are continuing to reiterate the importance of social distancing, hand sanitizer and regularly washing of hands.

### **What to do if your child develops symptoms of COVID 19**

To remind you, if your child develops symptoms of COVID-19, they must not come to school 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.

It is important that all other household members who remain well, stay at home and do 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 does develop symptoms, you can seek advice from the nhs.uk website at <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/check-if-you-have-coronavirus-symptoms/>. If you are concerned about your child's symptoms, or they are worsening you can seek advice from NHS 111 at <https://111.nhs.uk/> 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,

Ms V Poulter  
Principal