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A University of Kent Academies Trust School

29th September 2020

Dear Parent/Carer

FOR PARENTS/CARERS OF CLOSE CONTACTS OF COVID 19 - Chatham Grammar Years 9/12/13

Advice for Child to Self-Isolate for 14 Days

We contacted you last week as we had been informed by Public Health England that there had been a confirmed case of COVID-19 within the academy.

Following further guidance from Public Health England we have now been able to ask the majority of students in Year 12 and Year 13 UKAT Sixth Form and Year 9 to return to the academy before the end of the 14 day isolation period.

However the advice we received from Public Health England now outlines guidelines to use in order to track a closer group of students who may have had contact with the student who was confirmed as being tested positive with COVID 19.

- The student's friendship group
- Identify who the student had been sitting next to for more than 15 minutes and within a space of 2 meters
- Identify who the student has had face to face contact with for more than 1 minute.

As we have systems in place to identify these students we are now contacting you directly to inform you **that your child has been identified as having been in close contact with the student who tested positive to COVID 19** and in line with the national guidance we recommend that your child continues to remain at home to self-isolate, returning to the academy on the **6th October, 2020**.

We are asking you to do this to reduce the further spread of COVID 19 to others in the community.

If your child is well at the end of the 14 days period of self-isolation, then they can return to usual activities.

Other members of your household can continue normal activities provided your child does not develop symptoms within the 14 day self-isolation period.

Please see the link to: Guidance for contacts of people with confirmed coronavirus (COVID-19) infection who do not live with the person

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/guidance-for-contacts-of-people-with-possible-or-confirmed-coronavirus-covid-19-infection-who-do-not-live-with-the-person>

What to do if your child develops symptoms of COVID 19

If your child develops symptoms of COVID-19, they 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'.

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 can, 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

Please see the link to the PHE 'Stay at Home' Guidance:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-stay-at-home-guidance/stay-at-home-guidance-for-households-with-possible-coronavirus-covid-19-infection>

Symptoms of COVID 19

The most common symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19) are recent onset of:

- new continuous cough and/or
- high temperature and/or
- a loss of, or change in, normal sense of taste or smell (anosmia)

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

OUR COMMITMENT TO YOUR PRIVACY

From time to time we may use your personal information to communicate newsletters or marketing information about events, products and services offered by the school which we feel are relevant to you. We will communicate marketing information to you on the basis of "legitimate interest" due to your current relationship with the school. You will find further information about how we use your personal information in our Data Privacy Notice by visiting <http://www.chathamgirlsgrammar.medway.sch.uk/privacy-parents/>. Should you wish to opt out of receiving these communications at any time you can do so by contacting the school office via email: officeCG@universityofkentacademiestrust.org.uk

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



Wendy Walters
Principal

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