



Venerable Bede Church of England Academy Dayspring Trust



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04/10/20

Dear Parent / Carer,

We have been in contact with Public Health England as there has been another confirmed case of COVID-19 within school, identified by a positive test result this weekend.

We appreciate that you may find this concerning. We are continuing to monitor the situation, and in line with our Risk Assessment, have sought advice from Public Health England. We are writing this letter to update you on the current situation, and to remind you of the advice on how to support your child during the current pandemic.

Your child is not affected by this case as they have not been identified as a close contact.

School remains open and your child should continue to attend as normal as long as they are well. If they develop symptoms themselves, they should follow the advice below.

Advice from Public Health England:

What to do if your child develops symptoms of COVID 19

*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.*

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'.

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/>



We would also refer you to the school website which has up to date information and links regarding what to do if you suspect that your child has coronavirus symptoms, or they have tested positive.

Whilst we all agree that these are trying times, we know that by working together we can support each other and do the best that we can for all our pupils. Please remember that we support each pupil who is isolating at home, or absent because of infection. Pupils should log on to their school account and access the lessons / resources provided in FOLDr.

Should you have any further questions, please contact the school office who will be able to direct your call appropriately.

Yours faithfully

Mr D. Airey

Headteacher

