

9<sup>th</sup> November 2020

## Re: 2<sup>nd</sup> Confirmed single COVID-19 case – Child Year 8

### Dear Parents/Carers

We have been advised by that there has been a 2<sup>nd</sup>, unrelated, confirmed case of COVID-19 within our Year 8 cohort.

The School is following the national guidance and liaising with the relevant external bodies. The school has been advised that our Year 8 cohort (bubble) should self-isolate for today whilst we work with Public Health England to identify any students or staff members who have been in close contact with the affected Year 8 student. We will update you later today to let you know once we have identified which Year 8 students will be required to self-isolate for the full 14 days.

All of the year groups (7,9,10,11, 12,13) should attend school as normal today.

We will keep you updated throughout the day.

We know that you may find this concerning, but we are continuing to monitor the situation and are working closely with Public Health England. This letter is to inform you of the current situation. Please be reassured that for most people, coronavirus (COVID-19) will be a mild illness.

Students in Year 8 and any staff who have been in direct prolonged contact with the confirmed case will have received an individual letter following our identification process later today and will stay at home for 14 days. It is unlikely that the whole Year 8 will be require self-isolating for the full 14 days.

The school remains open and your child should continue to attend if they remain well.

### **Remote Learning**

Whilst we conduct our own track and trace process, all Year 8 students should access the remote learning materials on the school website. Students are able to access remote learning activities for all subjects using <u>this link</u>, and should ideally follow their timetabled lessons.

### 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 <u>this link</u>.

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.

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Telephone: 01438 222500 Fax: 01438 222501 Email:communication@barnwell.herts.sch.uk Website: www.barnwellschool.co.uk Headteacher: Mr A. Fitzpatrick 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 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.

If your child does develop symptoms, you can seek advice from NHS 111 at the following website <u>link</u> 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 via this link.

Yours faithfully

Mr T Fitzpatrick	Mr M Roberts
Executive Headteacher	Head of School