Barnwell Middle School

Shephall Green Stevenage Hertfordshire SG2 9XT



Barnwell Upper School

Barnwell Stevenage Hertfordshire SG2 9SW

Re: Confirmed COVID-19 case - Child Year 11

16th November 2020

Dear Parent/Carer

Thank you for your patience today while we worked with HCC Public Health to decide how best to respond to the positive case in Year 11 that we notified you of yesterday.

After a number of discussions with HCC Public Heath we have been advised to tell all students in Year 11 to self-isolate. This decision has not been taken lightly and is a precautionary measure.

In line with the national guidance, we recommend that your child now stay at home and self-isolate until Friday 27th November 2020. Your child should return to school on Monday 30th November. 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 <u>link</u> to: Guidance for contacts of people with confirmed coronavirus (COVID-19) infection who do not live with the person.

Remote Learning

As your child is part of a whole year group that is self-isolating we will be able to provide live online lessons for all your child's classes, at the times of their normal lessons, with the exception of core PE and Barnwell Pride.

Live lessons will start on Tuesday 17th November and these will be held on Microsoft Teams, which your child has had training on.

If your child does not have a device that will enable them to access the live Teams lessons, please contact the school via communication@barnwell.herts.sch.uk and we will work with you to resolve this.

If for any reason your child cannot access the Live lesson, or we have to cancel due to staff absence please continue to use the learning checklist for specific subjects on the remote learning tab on the school website.

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 this link.

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.

Achieving Excellence Together

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 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 Executive Headteacher