

22nd March, 2021

Dear Parents/Carers,

Single Positive Case of Covid-19

I can confirm that a Year 9 student has tested positive for Covid-19. After completing the close contact tracing required with the student and Worcestershire County Council Local Outbreak Response Team (LORT), your son/daughter has been identified as a close contact of the confirmed positive case.

It is therefore necessary for your son/daughter to begin a period of self-isolation which will begin today **22nd March, 2021**. This isolation period will end on **28th March** and students should return to school as normal on **29th March, 2021**.

Lessons

Your son/daughter can access their normal lessons through Teams from 23rd March, 2021. If your child is having difficulty accessing a device for home learning, please contact the school on office@arrowvaleacademy.co.uk

Attached is a link to the guidance for how to access Teams remote lessons;

<https://www.arrowvaleacademy.co.uk/learning-from-home-guides/>

Self-Isolation

We are asking you to do this to reduce the risk of further spread of Covid-19 to others in the community. **During the time your child needs to stay at home and not go to any other public places.** Please see the link to the PHE Staying at Home Guidance for your child:

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

Other members of your household do not need to self-isolate provided your child does not develop symptoms within the self-isolation period. However, you do still need to follow the current Government guidelines with regards to lock down.

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. Please contact school to inform us if symptoms develop. 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 10 days. The 10-day period starts from the day when the first person in the house became ill.

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Household members staying at home for 10 days will greatly reduce the overall amount of infection the household could pass on to others in the community.

If you are 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.

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 <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/check-if-you-have-coronavirus-symptoms/> 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

Signposting for people affected by COVID-19 can be accessed via Here 2 Help: <https://www.worcestershire.gov.uk/here2help>

Further Information

Further information is available at <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/>

Free School Meals

Students entitled to Free School Meals will be supported with food parcels from the school kitchen during the self-isolation period and will be contacted shortly with regards to this.

Testing

Home testing for students began on Sunday 21st March, 2021, if your child has not yet received a home testing kit, please ensure they collect one on their first day back following isolation.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us on office@arrowvaleacademy.co.uk

Yours sincerely



Ian Mellor
Principal