



3 November 2020

Dear Parents and Carers

Test and Trace Update

I hope you have enjoyed a positive half-term break with your child. Unfortunately, there were some positive student cases reported over the break as follows:

Year	Number of cases
7	1
8	1
9	2
10	2
11	1
12	1
13	2

Not all these cases were reported to all parents / carers via email over the break as symptoms may have only occurred towards the end of the week. In such cases, there were no close contacts identified in school.

We continue to contact close contacts identified in school but Public Health England have asked us to stress **that families should use the test and trace system to report close contacts outside school hours in the unfortunate event that a student has tested positive for COVID-19.** This includes during the school week when a student is walking to and from school.

I take this opportunity to remind parents and carers that they will need to be ready and willing to:

- **Book a test** if they or their child are displaying symptoms. The main symptoms are a high temperature, a new continuous cough and/or a loss or change to your sense of smell or taste. Staff and pupils must not come into the school if they have symptoms and must be sent home to self-isolate if they develop them in school. All children can be tested if they have symptoms, including children under 5, but children aged 11 and under will need to be helped by their parents or carers if using a home testing kit.
- **Provide details** of anyone they or their child have been in close contact with if they were to test positive for coronavirus (COVID-19) or if asked by NHS Test and Trace.
- **Self-isolate** if they have been in close contact with someone who tests positive for coronavirus (COVID-19), or if anyone in their household develops symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19).

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Please note that for the main school (Years 7 to 11), self-isolation work can be accessed through the school website in the subject's tab. Students may then find additional work in MS Teams.

I thank you for your continued support during this challenging time for all.

Kind regards

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'C. Eardley', written in a cursive style.

Dr C Eardley
Head of School