



# The Minster School

15 September 2020

Dear Parent/Carer,

We have been informed today that a student has tested positive for Coronavirus and is now isolating at home with their family. We wish that student all the best for a rapid recovery.

This means that, in line with national guidance we must send home those students who have been in close contact with the affected individual. If your child falls into this category you will have received an additional communication from school informing you what you will need to do.

It is appreciated that you may be concerned but we are taking the necessary advice and will do our very best in school to maintain our arrangements to keep students safe and minimise the number of students affected when cases arise.

We are disappointed that this has occurred so early in the school year and have been really pleased to welcome our students back in recent weeks. It is, however, essential we follow public health and national guidance.

Yours sincerely,

Matthew Parris  
Head Teacher

Ben Chaloner  
Head of School

**Please see below the standard letter issues by public health.**

Dear Parents,

We have been advised by Public Health England that there has been a confirmed case of COVID-19 within the school.

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

The small number of children who have been in direct prolonged contact with the confirmed case will have received an individual letter and will be staying at home for 14 days.

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

## **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 or anyone in the household 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

### **Further Information**

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