



Dear parents and carers

16th September 2020

COVID-19 – Arrangements and expectations

You may be aware that following the return of pupils to school, some local schools have been notified of a confirmed case of COVID-19. I wanted to share our plans in the event of a confirmed case so that we can all be as well prepared as possible.

- **What do I do if my child/ anyone in my household has symptoms of COVID-19?**

Please follow the [stay at home guidance](#) and apply for a COVID test as soon as possible on www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test or call 119.

Anyone who develops symptoms of COVID-19, or whose household member develops symptoms, should immediately self-isolate. **They should not attend school.** The person with symptoms should isolate for 10 days starting from the first day of their symptoms and the rest of their household should isolate for 14 days from the same day.

For example: Please do not send your child to school if a sibling who attends another school is showing symptoms of COVID-19. However, you should continue to send them in if the sibling has been asked to isolate, as long as they do not have any symptoms/ not tested as COVID-19 positive.

Please let us know if you are keeping your child/ young person at home by leaving a message on the pupil absence line, and one of our Severndale team will follow up and get back to you.

- **How will I know if the test is positive?**

If your child tests positive for COVID-19, you will be informed by NHS Test and Trace.

Notification of the positive test will be sent to Public Health England, and the Local Authority contact tracer will contact us at school to discuss next steps.

If a member of your household tests positive, you must all stay at home for 14 days.

- **What to expect if Severndale has a confirmed case?**

We will work with the contact tracer to identify direct and close contacts of the case during the 48 hours prior to the child or staff member falling ill. This is likely to be the pupils and staff of that class.

The contact tracer will provide a standard letter to the school containing the advice for contacts and their families - We will immediately forward this letter and send a text alert to the identified contacts.

Please note that you may also get a call from the contact tracer before you receive the letter and text from school.

If there is a confirmed case and your child has been identified as a contact, we will follow up with a call to you as soon as possible, to make sure that you are ok (it will take longer to make contact with you if this situation occurs over a weekend).

We will also send further communications out to our wider parent/ carer group to reassure families and confirm the overall situation via email and text.



- **Who can support me if I am worried?**

If you are worried at any time, please email Sabrina.hobbs@severndaleschool.co.uk and I will do my best to help you, or help you to find someone who can!

- **What should I do next?**

We have many measures in place to prevent the potential spread of the virus which are outlined in the working risk assessment that has been shared and is available on the school website. Please let us know if you think of any further considerations.

We continue to manage pupils who come to school with cold-like symptoms, however we also appreciate the proactive measures that many parents and carers have taken over the past week to keep children and young people at home if they seem unwell. This helps us to support and sustain a stable and operational workforce as well as keep our environment safe for our pupils.

Please continue to keep your child at home if they are unwell or isolating, and we will work with you to identify the best way to provide distance learning and support, in a similar way to that in the Summer Term. We are very grateful for your assistance and patience as we work in partnership with you to make this as effective as possible. Your child's class teacher will follow up directly with you to discuss this if/when needed.

Let me know if you have any questions relating to this, and I will keep you informed of any updates as they occur.

Thank you for your continued help and support.

Best wishes

Sabrina Hobbs