

Dear Parent/ Carer

Since our last communication on Friday, we are seeing a rising number of Covid-19 cases in the local and school community, particularly in Year 9. We are in constant communication with Wiltshire Council Public Health team to identify close contacts and any additional actions required. As yet, we have not had to send a whole year group home to be educated but we will need to monitor the situation closely in the next few days and possibly respond to the rising number of staff who are required to isolate.

Whilst I fully understand this will cause anxiety amongst the Malmesbury School community, I can assure you all necessary steps are being taken to minimise risk to others, to cause the least disruption possible and to support all those affected.

Please continue to lateral flow test at least twice a week and if your child experiences any symptoms of Covid (cough, temperature, sore throat, feeling shivery, cold or flu like symptoms or loss of taste or smell) please keep them off school and book a PCR test – as detailed below.

What to do if your child or another member of the household develops symptoms of COVID 19?

If your child or another member of the household develops symptoms of COVID-19, they should arrange a test via <https://www.nhs.uk/ask-for-a-coronavirus-test> or by calling 119 and remain at home with the rest of the household while waiting for the result.

If the test is positive, the individual will need to isolate for at least 10 days from the date when their symptoms appeared. All other household members must also stay at home and not leave the house for 10 days. This includes anyone in your 'Support Bubble' – defined here - <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/making-a-support-bubble-with-another-household>. The 10-day period starts from the day when the first person in the house became ill with coronavirus symptoms.

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 10 days will greatly reduce the overall amount of infection the household could pass on to others in the community. If possible, 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.

Please see the link to the PHE 'Stay at Home' Guidance:

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

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/>

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'SA' followed by a horizontal line.

Sarah Haines

Assistant Headteacher