



Charles Darwin School

Operated by the Charles Darwin Academy Trust

Headteacher: Sunil Chotai, BSc

18th May 2021

Dear Parents/Carers,

Advice to parents of closure of Year 8 bubble

I am writing to let you know that there has been a positive Covid-19 LFD result within the Year 8 bubble. We have therefore taken the decision to provisionally close the Year 8 bubble and implement remote learning for Year 8 students for today. This will enable us to undertake close contact tracing and a deep clean of the affected parts of the school.

In line with Public Health assessment, due to the number of cases in Year 7, we have decided to close the Year 7 bubble as a precautionary measure until half term. Obviously, given the current situation, reducing all contact with students outside the year group bubble is an important precaution for all concerned as we seek to minimise the spread of the virus. I would therefore urge all parents to support this in all dealings outside of school.

I have written separately to parents/carers of Year 8 students regarding specific arrangements.

We are continuing to monitor the situation and are working closely with the health authorities. 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. We will of course be conducting a thorough deep clean.

It is vitally important that families continue to conduct home testing twice a week using the LFD test kits provided. Any positive cases must be reported to the school and followed up by a PCR test.

The school remains open for students in Years 9, 10, 11, 12 and 13 and providing your child remains well they can continue to attend school as normal. We will keep this under review.

For families with siblings in other year groups, your other children should attend school as long as they are well. Siblings and family members of those testing positive must stay at home.

It is important that if any household member develops symptoms of COVID-19 all household members, including students, must stay at home. Any household member developing symptoms of COVID-19 must immediately book a test and if positive, the school must be informed and the student must not attend school.

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. They must take a test and the school informed of the result.

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. Household members should not go to work, school or public areas and exercise should be taken within the home. 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 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:

- new continuous cough and/or
- high temperature
- 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 or anyone in the household does develop symptoms, you can seek advice from NHS 111 at: <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/symptoms/> or by phoning NHS 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

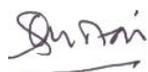
- wash your hands with soap and water often – do this for at least 20 seconds
- use hand sanitiser gel if soap and water are not available
- wash your hands as soon as you get home
- cover your mouth and nose with a tissue or your sleeve (not your hands) when you cough or sneeze
- put used tissues in the bin immediately and wash your hands afterwards

Further Information

Further information is available at:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/guidance-to-educational-settings-about-covid-19>

Yours sincerely,



Sunil Chotai
Headteacher