# **Edwinstree Middle School**

Voluntary Controlled Church of England School

7th October 2020

Dear Parent/Carer

We have been informed of one confirmed case of COVID-19 within the school.

This letter is to inform you of the current situation and provide general advice for you. Those children and staff members who have been in direct prolonged contact with the confirmed case will have received an individual letter and telephone call advising them to self-isolate in line with the national guidance.

If you have not been directly contacted by the school office, your child does not need to self-isolate on account of the case in the school, therefore, we expect your child to be in school tomorrow. This letter is for your information only.

I have taken the opportunity to speak to all students today to inform them of the situation, reassure them and remind them of the Covid-19 guidance we are following in school. The guidance is listed below:

## What to do if your child develops symptoms of COVID-19

If your child develops symptoms of COVID-19 they should remain at home. Arrange for a COVID test via <a href="https://www.nhs.uk/ask-for-a-coronavirus-test">https://www.nhs.uk/ask-for-a-coronavirus-test</a> or by calling NHS 119 and inform the Headteacher.

If their test is negative, they can return to school when they are well.

If their test is positive, they will need to self-isolate for 10 days from the date when their symptoms began. All your household members must self-isolate for 14 days.

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

#### **Symptoms**

The symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19) are:

- · recent onset of new continuous cough or
- high temperature or
- 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 you are concerned about your health or the health of anyone else in your house please seek advice from your GP or NHS 111 by phoning 111.

### There are things you can do to reduce the risk of getting COVID-19:

- 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 <a href="https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/">https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/</a>

I would like to reassure you again, that we have actioned all the advice from Public Health England and will continue to do so. Thank you for your support.

Yours sincerely,

Jo Gant Headteacher

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