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Headteacher: Mr. Aaron Wanford MA, B.Ed. (Hons), NPQH

Sunday, 14th February 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

RE: Confirmed case of coronavirus (COVID-19) in school

I am writing to inform you that there has been a **confirmed** case of COVID-19 within the Year Three bubble at Green Ridge.

I understand that this may be upsetting and frustrating news for you to receive. Our staff and children have done all that they have been asked; however, this virus is such that we have needed to take further action to stop the spread. The individual was in school on Friday and has since accessed a test and have tested positive.

The school contacted the dedicated helpline at the Department for Education. The helpline's team conducted a rapid investigation to confirm who the individual was in close contact with during the period they were infectious. This helpline provided us with definitive advice on which individuals needed to be sent home to self-isolate.

Close contacts are:

- Those who have been in face-to-face contact with the individual for any length of time within one metre, including being coughed on, having a face-to-face conversation or having unprotected skin-to-skin contact.
- Those who have been in extended close contact with the individual, i.e. within one to two metres for more than 15 minutes.
- Those who have travelled in a small vehicle, e.g. a car, with the individual.

In line with the guidance, school will be closed to **Year Three** bubble children and staff for 10 days. They will need to stay home and self-isolate until Tuesday, 23rd February.

If your child is well at the end of the 10 days period of self-isolation, then they can return to usual activities on Tuesday, 23rd February, including returning to school as part of the Year Three critical worker and vulnerable pupil bubble. Other members of your household can continue normal activities provided your child does not develop symptoms within the 10-day self-isolation period.

Please see the link to: [Guidance for contacts of people with confirmed coronavirus \(COVID-19\) infection who do not live with the person](#)

Continuation of remote learning

Naturally there is no remote learning set for the duration of the half-term break, but remote education will resume on Monday, 22nd February via Teams. The children will access this on day 10 of their isolation and then return to school, providing they are symptom free, on Tuesday 23rd February.

If any further cases of coronavirus are confirmed, the school will work with Public Health England's local health protection team to ensure the appropriate actions are taken. This may include more pupils and staff being sent home to self-isolate. You will be kept fully informed of any developments.

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. 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.

People who do not have symptoms should not request a test unless this has been specifically requested by Public Health England or the local authority.

All other household members who remain well must stay at home and not leave the house for 10 days. This includes anyone in your 'Support Bubble'.

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. 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 you are able to, 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.

Symptoms of COVID 19

The most common symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19) are recent onset of:

- new continuous cough and/or
- high temperature and/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 your child does develop symptoms, you can seek advice from the nhs.uk website at <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/check-if-you-have-coronavirus-symptoms/>. If you are concerned about your child's symptoms, or they are worsening you can seek advice from NHS 111 at <https://111.nhs.uk/> 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/>

I understand that you may have questions about the content of this letter, so please get in touch with us via e-mail to discuss any concerns.

I am sure you will all join me in wishing the individual a safe recovery.

Yours faithfully,



Mr. Aaron Wanford
Executive Headteacher



Mr. Sean English
Acting Head of School