

19th April 2021

Advice for Child to Self-Isolate for 10 Days

Dear Parent and Carers of pupils in Year 11.

We have been informed that two pupils have received a positive Covid-19 asymptomatic test result. We are awaiting the results of a confirmatory PCR test. We have identified close contacts within Year 11 and have sent them home to self-isolate in accordance with government guidance. If the PCR test is subsequently negative, all pupils will be able to return to school and we will inform those affected of this. We have followed the national guidance and have identified that your child could have been in close contact with the affected pupil. In line with the national guidance we ask that your child now stays at home and self-isolates until Tuesday 27th April unless the PCR result for the pupil mentioned is subsequently negative meaning self-isolation can end.

The Year 11 students was last in school on Friday 16th April and we have completed an assessment today. This assessment includes taking advice from the Department for Education and Public Health England, as well as reviewing the students and staff who could be classed as close contacts with the individuals.

As a result of this assessment, 30 students have been contacted and asked to self-isolate for 10 days in line with the national guidance. All other Year 11 students are expected to remain in school.

The Year 11 students that are self-isolating are expected to work remotely via their Microsoft 365 Accounts. In lessons this term they have been shown how to access their home learning. Further guidance and support for parents and students to access and complete work is available on our website. Please be assured that arrangements are in place to reschedule any planned assessments that are due to take place over the next 10 days.

We acknowledge that this decision will impact on families, however as you will appreciate, we are operating in a national context in which the number of COVID cases continues to impact schools. Heath Lane Academy will remain open for all other Year groups.

For those students who receive free school meals, vouchers will be sent through to parents/carers via text message. The vouchers will cover the self-isolation period and will be to the total value your child would have received if they had been in school.

If your child is well at the end of the 10 day period of self-isolation, then they can return to usual activities including returning to school on Tuesday 27th April. 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.
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/guidance-for-contacts-of-people-with-possible-or-confirmed-coronavirus-covid-19-infection-who-do-not-live-with-the-person> .

PRINCIPAL: Mr Mark Trimingham MA(Ed), BSc (Hons)

Heath Lane • Earl Shilton • Leicester • LE9 7PD • Telephone : 01455 845061 • Fax : 01455 848665
E-mail : office@hla.leics.sch.uk • Website : www.hla.leics.sch.uk

The Heath Lane Academy is operated by The Midland Academies Trust, a company limited by guarantee registered in England and Wales with company number 07191874, having its registered office at Hinckley Road, Nuneaton, Warwickshire, CV11 6BH

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. 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, 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>

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 NHS 111 at <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/check-if-you-have-coronavirus-symptoms/> 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:

- 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



Mark Trimingham
Principal

PRINCIPAL: Mr Mark Trimingham MA(Ed), BSc (Hons)

Heath Lane • Earl Shilton • Leicester • LE9 7PD • Telephone : 01455 845061 • Fax : 01455 848665
E-mail : office@hla.leics.sch.uk • Website : www.hla.leics.sch.uk

The Heath Lane Academy is operated by The Midland Academies Trust, a company limited by guarantee registered in England and Wales with company number 07191874, having its registered office at Hinckley Road, Nuneaton, Warwickshire, CV11 6BH