

Pitchford Street
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01 October 2020

Dear Parent/Carer,

Reported COVID-19 Positive Test - Year 8

I am writing to you following a reported case of coronavirus within Year 8.

As we did last week we have been in touch with local and national health authorities and are putting in place an appropriate response. In this case a small number of students in Year 8 will be at home for a short period of time with minimal disruption to learning. We were able to limit the impact because of our pod systems and our ability to separate children.

For any parents in Year 8 who have questions we will run a short online Q&A session at 5:00pm today. [Link here](#). This is for Year 8 parents only.

Set out below is the information I released last week.

Is my child able to come to school?

Yes. Prior to reopening, every school had to complete a detailed risk assessment against the government's guidance document. School 21 has a rigorous risk assessment that was approved by our Trustees at the end of August before school reopened. The Risk Assessment is available to view on the school's website or using the following link: [Risk Assessment](#). We have split the school carefully into pods which means we can limit any wider impact.

How can you guarantee that my child is safe?

We can guarantee that we are following the government's guidance thoroughly. Our health and safety advisors believe our control measures to be of a very good standard. The school is doing everything it can to mitigate the risk.

What happens to the children's learning?

As per the government's guidance, the school has a contingency plan for home learning when an individual or a year group has to self-isolate. The process for an individual is different to that of an entire year group. Individual children who are self-isolating join in with lessons being conducted in school. Parents who have already experienced this have been overwhelmingly positive in their response to this method of home learning.

What happens if my child becomes ill with coronavirus symptoms?

If your child develops a new, continuous cough, has a temperature of 37.8 degrees and/or loses their sense of smell and/or taste, then please keep your child at home. You must book a test by either using the online booking service at <https://www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test> or by calling NHS 119. We are aware that it can be very difficult to book. Please attempt at various points throughout the day as test booking availability is released at different times. When you have received the result of the test, it is essential that you let the school know the result (even if it is negative).

Please email both attendance@school21.org.uk AND your head of school with your result.

Primary (Reception to Year 4) Meg Drummond mdrummond@school21.org.uk

Middle School (Year 5 to Year 8) Anna Kyrk akyrk@school21.org.uk

Secondary School (Year 9 to Year 11) Rachael Futo rfuto@school21.org.uk

Sixth Form (Year 12 and Year 13) Karenann Spencer kspencer@school21.org.uk

Please await a response from one of these email addresses to confirm that it is okay for your child to return to school.

How can I support the school to reduce transmission?

- Wear a mask when coming on school site
- Arrive at the allocated times for your child's year group
- Do not congregate in large groups with other parents waiting to collect
- Leave the school site as soon as you've collected your child.
- Re enforce the safety routines with your child: hand washing, distancing, face masks from Year 7 upwards.

Thanks for your continued support.

Yours faithfully,



Oli de Botton
Executive Headteacher