

Alderbrook School

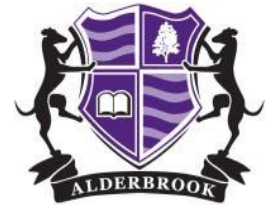
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14 July 2021

Dear Parents and Carers

Unfortunately we are continuing to have positive cases of COVID-19 in the school community. This week it appears to be impacting on two year groups in particular but we know that this can change very quickly. Below are details of next steps for Year 8 and Year 10, along with details of today's cases. Please read this information carefully.

Please can I also remind you that all students should take a LFD test after school today; please report any positive results immediately to covidpositive@alderbrook.solihull.sch.uk.

Year 10

Having had a confirmed case on Monday and Tuesday in the year group, we have today had a further 3 confirmed cases. This will unfortunately mean that a significant number of students will now be asked to isolate beyond the end of the school term. Given the possible transmission within school, I have liaised with Public Health today who have agreed that a short circuit break would be advisable to minimise the risk of further spread. **We are therefore asking all Year 10 to work from home for Thursday and Friday this week**; if we do not get more related cases we are still hopeful that those students not isolating will be able to return to school on Monday for the last three days of term, and I will update all parents at the weekend. If students are not already isolating, or do not later receive notification that they have been identified as a close contact to today's cases, they do not have to isolate for the next few days, however we ask that any contact with other Alderbrook students is kept to a minimum.

Year 8

As parents of Year 8 are aware, we received notification of a case in Year 8 late last night so we have asked all Year 8 to work from home today. All students who have been identified as close contacts to this case have been notified this afternoon. Although there have been two Year 8 cases in quick succession, having liaised with Public Health we have not seen evidence of in-school transmission between these cases and are therefore asking all Year 8 not already isolating or identified as a close contact today to return to school tomorrow. We will of course review this if there are further cases but we want students to remain in school if at all possible.

Cases

Case 1

A Year 10 student received a positive test result via a LFD test yesterday. The student was last in school on Tuesday 13 July and we have been advised to ask anyone who was a close contact on that day or the day before to isolate. **We are contacting separately anyone we know who was a close contact with the Year 10 student.**

Case 2

A Year 10 student received a positive test result via a LFD test yesterday. The student was last in school on Monday 12 July and we have been advised to ask anyone who was a close contact on that day to isolate. **We are contacting separately anyone we know who was a close contact with the Year 10 student.**

Case 3

A Year 10 student received a positive test result via a LFD test yesterday. The student was last in school on Monday 12 July and we have been advised to ask anyone who was a close contact on that day to isolate. **We are contacting separately anyone we know who was a close contact with the Year 10 student.**

Case 4

A Year 8 student received a positive test result via a LFD test yesterday. The student was last in school on Tuesday 13 July and we have been advised to ask anyone who was a close contact on that day or the day before to isolate. **All close contacts have been contacted.**

We fully understand that having to isolate will be of great concern to students and parents, and we will work with these students to support them.

Reminders

It is important that we remember that we still need to be cautious and maintain our control measures. Your support with the following is essential:

- We are relying on parents / carers keeping children at home if they are displaying any symptoms at all.
- If students are tested, then it is important that they do not come back into school unless they have received a negative test.
- Students should be taking an LFD test twice each week (Sundays and Wednesdays) and results reported to the NHS and via School Screener.
- If any member of the community (staff or student) has tested positive, then that individual should not return to school until they have completed a 10-day isolation period. After this period, they can return to school as long as they are not showing symptoms. There is no need for a further test to be taken (unless advised by a medical professional).
- If you are notifying us of a confirmed case, please contact us using the dedicated email address
- Ensure that, unless they are exempt from wearing one, students bring clean face masks to school each day.

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)

Whilst Solihull and National advice remains clear that these symptoms are the ones that would trigger isolation and booking a PCR test, you may also want to be mindful that headaches, runny noses and sore throats may also be symptoms of concern.

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/check-if-you-have-coronavirus-symptoms/> or by phoning 111.

Further Information

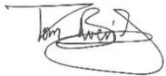
Further information is available at <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/>

Keeping our children and families, staff and local community safe is our priority. We will continue to follow government guidance and that of Public Health England and ensure that you are informed at each step of the way.

We realise that you may have questions about this situation and would ask you in the first instance, to direct these to office@alderbrook.solihull.sch.uk. Whilst we are unable to discuss any specific details with you, we will of course try and respond to any general questions you may have promptly.

Thank you for your continued understanding and support.

Yours sincerely,



Tom Beveridge
Headteacher