



2 November 2020

Dear Parents/Carers

I hope that you are well and enjoyed a restful half term.

During the week's break we were notified that some members of our school community have tested positive for Covid-19.

I know that you may find this concerning but Public Health England (PHE) were able to reassure us that there is no increased risk to our community as they were not in school during the infectious phase. They have not come into contact with any students/staff during this period and there is no need for any other individuals in school to self-isolate. Although the health advice is clear, I thought it was important to update you as these were the first confirmed cases in our community.

I would like to take this opportunity to reassure you that the rigorous measures that we implemented in term one will be maintained. The school has been divided into 6 distinct teaching zones which incorporate designated play spaces and toilet facilities. Staff and students are maintaining social distancing wherever possible and face masks are compulsory in corridors and community areas. The importance of hand hygiene and respiratory hygiene is continually emphasized and a rigorous schedule of cleaning is being maintained.

I would also like to take this opportunity to make some general reminders concerning Covid-19.

What to do if your child develops symptoms of Covid-19

If your child develops symptoms of Covid-19, they must not come to school and 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://self-referral.test-for-coronavirus.service.gov.uk/antigen/condition>

All other household members who remain well, must stay at home and not leave the house for 14 days. This includes anyone in your "Support Bubble". The 14-day period starts from the day with 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.

Further information is available at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-stay-at-home-guidance/stay-at-home-guidance-for-households-with-possible-coronavirus-covid-19-infection>

For students who are self-isolating remote school work will be accessible through Teams. If you have any problems accessing this please contact your child's Director of Learning.

Household members staying at home for 14 days will greatly reduce the overall amount of infection the household could pass on to others in the community.

Seaford Head Academy Trust

Mr R Ellis, Headteacher

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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.

Symptoms

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

- a new continuous cough
- a high temperature
- a loss of, or change in, your 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/symptoms/>. If you are concerned about your child's symptoms, or they are worsening you can seek advice from NHS1 111 at <https://111.nhs.uk/covid-19/> 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>

Through working together we can continue to ensure that members of our community are kept as safe as possible. If you have any concerns or questions please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R. Ellis', written over a horizontal line.

Mr R Ellis
Headteacher