



WILLIAM FARR

C of E Comprehensive School

Our ref: JMK/SXG

16 July 2021

Dear Parent/Guardian

School Closure for Year 7 and 10 Students Only

Over the last week, the school has seen an increase in the number of confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Years 7 and 10. This has now escalated to the point where we have a number of confirmed cases of COVID-19 in these year groups which are connected and a significant number of students now self-isolating.

This afternoon I have liaised with Public Health Lincolnshire, the Local Authority and the Chair of Governors and a decision has been made for Year 7 and 10 students to now access education remotely at home to prevent any possible future transmission of COVID-19. **The school will, therefore, close to all Year 7 and 10 students from the end of today (Friday 16 July 2021)** and will remain closed for these year groups for the remainder of this term with the school breaking up for the summer holidays at lunchtime on Wednesday 21 July 2021.

The decision to revert to remote learning for Year 7 and 10 students has not been taken lightly, but in these circumstances, it is the right decision to minimise any further risk of transmission in school within these year groups.

Year 7 and 10 students will receive an authorised absence for the remaining days of term.

The school remains open for all other year groups in school - Years 8, 9 and 12.

Please note that if you have a child in Year 7 or 10, who is already self-isolating from a confirmed case, they must remain in self-isolation until this time period has elapsed. Other Year 7 and 10 students who are now at home do not need to self-isolate. Siblings of students in Year 7 and 10 who are in other year groups and not isolating can continue to attend school. Please be reassured that the school has taken, and will continue to take, all preventative measures possible to protect the school community from COVID-19.

What to do if your child develops symptoms of COVID 19

If your child develops symptoms of COVID-19, they should take a PCR test and self-isolate until the test result is received. If the test is positive, they must self-isolate for 10 days from the date of first symptoms/test and follow advice from NHS Test and Trace. If the test is negative and they are well, they can stop isolating. 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.

With a positive test, all other household members 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.



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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/>

Please refer to my letter sent to all parents today which details the changes to reporting and contact tracing for COVID cases from Monday 16 July 2021.

Year 7 and 10 School Work

Your child's teachers will now set work remotely via the VLE. Tasks will closely mirror the work that would have been studied in school where possible. Please be aware that the school is currently experiencing staff absences, however we will maintain educational provision for the last few days of term.

Your child should use the 'Reset' button on the VLE daily to check for new work set. If your child needs help with the work set, then they should contact their teacher via the comments section of the VLE task. Please contact the school if your child has any issues accessing remote education.

I am very sorry to have to inform you of this, but it is the right decision to make at this moment in time.

Thank you for your support and understanding.

Yours faithfully

Jonathan Knowler
Headteacher