

21 September 2021

Dear Parents and Carers

RE: ADVICE TO ALL PARENTS: COVID CASES AND ENHANCED MEASURES

We have been advised this week that there have been a further five confirmed cases of COVID-19 within the Academy.

As you know, we have put extensive measures in place to ensure that our students and staff are as safe as possible at the academy. We are continuing to monitor the situation and are working closely with Public Health England in order to prevent the spread of Covid-19. At present it appears that transmission of cases is taking place in the community rather than at the academy. However, we want to prioritise the safety of all students and staff and so will be re-introducing some additional measures to prevent the spread of Covid-19.

How else will the academy help to prevent the spread of Covid-19

Following the increase of cases, the academy will be re-introducing additional measures in order to help to prevent the spread of Covid-19.

From tomorrow (22nd September):

- all students and staff will wear their academy masks when moving between lessons (unless exempt)
- all staff will remain at 2m+ distance from others in the academy
- the number of students in assembly will be halved so that classes have distance between them when in the hall
- all visitors will be asked to wear masks when at the academy

You may be aware that we have our Open Evening scheduled for this Thursday 23rd September for prospective parents and students. At present we plan to go ahead with this event but to hold the majority of it outside in order to reduce the risk of transmission.

How you and your child can help to prevent the spread of Covid-19

We can all help to prevent the spread of Covid-19. Please continue to ensure that your child:

- Does not attend the academy if they have a cough, a high temperature or loses their sense of taste or smell
- Takes a PCR test if they are advised by NHS test and trace that they are a close contact of a confirmed case
- Takes a lateral flow test each Monday and Thursday morning and does not attend the academy if the test is positive
- Regularly washes their hands
- Wears their own mask (not their academy mask) when travelling on public transport

Is my child a close contact of someone with Covid-19?

The children who have been in close contact with the individuals who have tested positive for coronavirus (COVID-19) will be contacted by NHS Test and Trace and asked to take a PCR test. Following Government guidance, close contacts of individuals who test positive for coronavirus no longer need to self isolate if they are under 18, are fully vaccinated or are not able to take the vaccine. If you or your child are contacted by NHS Test and Trace you should take a PCR test, continue sending your child to the academy and inform us only if the PCR test result is positive. If your child does take a PCR test and it is positive, then your child will need to self isolate following government guidance while they get better.

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 is advised to take a PCR test. This can be arranged via <https://www.nhs.uk/ask-for-a-coronavirus-test> or by calling 119.

I would also like to remind you that there is still money and other support to help with isolation from the Newham COVID 19 helpline. To access this please call 020 7473 9711 or email covidhelp@community-links.org

Further Information

Further information is available at <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/> and <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/self-isolation-and-treatment/when-to-self-isolate-and-what-to-do/>

Thank you for your continued support during the disruption caused by the coronavirus. If you have any questions, please contact the academy on 0208 059 2500.

Yours sincerely,



Emily Boxer
Acting Principal