

1st May 2021
19:10

Dear Families,

Re: Covid-19 update – please read this information carefully

As you will be undoubtedly aware, we had to collapse the year 9 Y-half bubble and ask a few students from Year 9 X-half to self-isolate, affecting 144 students and 4 staff members due to positive Covid-19 cases. In total, we now have three positive cases in the same bubble, classing this as an outbreak. We have been working closely with the Health Protection Hub today to ensure that this can be contained so that any further cases, should there be any, be identified as soon as possible.

All 148 people who are currently isolating have been asked to take a PCR test and let us know of the result if it is positive as directed by the Health Protection Hub. Even if the tests are returned with a negative result, the full isolation period still applies.

The whole school site has been ULV fogged and sanitized today, as it is every weekend, to ensure that it is safe for all students to return on Tuesday after the bank holiday weekend. Our internal procedures for keeping the school as Covid-secure as it can be, are extremely tight but even with these strict measures, if we have students or families not following isolation rules, even these strict measures will not be enough to protect our community from an outbreak.

Please **do not** send your children to school if they display any Covid-19 symptoms or if there is another member of the household who is displaying symptoms. This is the same for any household who has a member tested positive for COVID-19. **Please isolate at home for 10 days.**

Once again we reiterate that:

- 1. If any member of your family develops any of the Covid symptoms and/or is tested positive for Covid-19 with a PCR test your whole household MUST isolate for 10 days.**
- 2. If your child is tested positive with a lateral flow test, please do not send them into school and take them to a PCR testing centre as soon as possible. You must isolate until the PCR test results come back and continue to isolate if the result is positive.**

The main symptoms of Covid-19 are as follows and a PCR test must be taken:

- A high temperature
- A continuous cough
- A loss of sense of taste or smell

Other possible symptoms of Covid-19 which you can also arrange your child to have a PCR test for if they are displaying symptoms are:

- Shortness of breath
- Loss of appetite
- Sore throat
- Headache
- Diarrhoea
- Nausea
- Vomiting

I urge you to not break isolation rules if your household has any members who display Covid-19 symptoms or are tested positive – the implications for our community, not only the school community but also the Newport and wider community, are huge.

Thank you to the 144 students who have been asked to isolate and their families. We will continue to work through the bank holiday weekend with the Health Protection Hub and send updates where appropriate.

Best wishes and stay safe,



Krissi Carter
Principal



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