

18th September 2020

Dear Parents,

This morning I am writing to you about two important topics. One relating to an instance of a positive Covid test and one about school admissions and Open Evening.

Covid Update

Yesterday afternoon, we were notified that one Year 7 pupil had tested positive for coronavirus. This pupil was not unwell at school, but others in his family had been and so he began isolating away from school on Tuesday morning. On Wednesday morning, he was able to get a test and then yesterday, that test came back positive.

There is a process all schools must follow when a pupil tests positive with the virus, which includes immediately notifying close contacts and consulting with Public Health England to get further advice and guidance. As a result, yesterday afternoon, school staff called all of the families with children in the same class as this pupil and told them to begin a period of self-isolation.

Because the last contact the class would have had with this pupil was Monday, the period of isolation will end on the morning of Thursday 24th September and that whole class will remain away from school until then. The families of pupils in that class have been advised that they do not need to get their child tested unless they too become symptomatic, and that they should monitor their children closely for signs and symptoms of the virus.

Today, I will be working closely with Birmingham City Council and Public Health England to consider the matter further and it may be that they recommend further actions to be taken. If that is the case, I will write to all families again as soon as I have more information.

I understand that for all families this is an anxious time. I fully understand any nervousness that you may have about sending your child to school. However, based on the risk assessment we have completed, and the risk management actions the school has taken, the local and national guidance is clear that in this instance only the one class needs to now isolate. We will of course review our plans and increase our efforts in reminding pupils to frequently wash their hands, practice good respiratory hygiene and to stay away from school if they are in anyway experiencing symptoms of the virus, no matter how mild.

School Admissions

The Autumn Term is usually a busy time in the school where we would welcome pupils and families who are interested in joining the school in Year 7 or in Year 12 next year. I am incredibly proud to lead a school that so many families want to join and where there is always a lengthy waiting list.

Obviously, because of the steps we are taking to control the risk of the virus, hosting open evenings where families can visit the school is not possible this year.

For families looking for places in Year 7 next year, the time to make applications is approaching very soon. Therefore, from Monday morning, we will have a dedicated page on our website designed to introduce our school to current Year 6 pupils and their parents.

If you yourself have children in Year 6 at local primary schools, or you have friends or relatives who are looking for a Year 7 place, please do direct them to our website from Monday afternoon onwards. On the website you will be able to find virtual tours, video introductions and further information about how to apply.

Despite the challenges of coronavirus, I am excited about the future of the school and welcoming two new year groups in September 2021.

If you to have any questions either about the steps we are taking to control the risk of coronavirus or about applying for places in Year 7 or Year 12 next year, please do get in touch.

Kind regards,



Mr G Rimmer
Principal