



UPDATE IN LIGHT OF CONFIRMED POSITIVE COVID TEST

Today (15 October 2020) we have notified staff, parents and students of a confirmed case of Covid-19 at Heathfield Community College. Student and staff safety is of paramount importance to us. We have stringently followed government guidelines and are working closely with the Public Health Team. The College remains open. The College has written to all parents to update them of the relevant information depending on whether we know their son/daughter was a close contact of the confirmed case or not. Details of what is required are set out in each letter, please contact College if you do not believe you have received a letter.

Below are some key points for us all:

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://www.nhs.uk/ask-for-a-coronavirus-test> or by calling 119.

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'.

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>

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/check-if-you-have-coronavirus-symptoms/>. If you are concerned about your child's symptoms, or they are worsening you can seek advice from NHS 111 at <https://111.nhs.uk/> 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/>

Public Health Messaging for us all

Our mantra with students is 'keep learning, keep Heathfield open'. We need to understand that if virus cases grow exponentially we will be back to remote learning and none of us wants that.

Inside College it is important that they all follow the advice and recommendations that we have set out around:

- Washing hands, sanitising, wearing masks, keeping distance, adhering to social space zones and following the one way systems.

Outside of college it is important that students and households adhere to current government and NHS guidance.

Our mitigation and cleaning measures are secure but we are keeping them under daily review. Whilst we are working hard to ensure students are compliant with distancing measures onsite, it is important that they maintain these behaviours offsite too.

Thank you for your support with this.