

Haileybury Turnford

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18th September 2020

Dear Parent/Carer

I hope you are safe and well. Thank you for your support so far this academic year. We continue to be very pleased with how our students are adapting to our new routines and procedures, and with the positive approach to their learning. It has been an excellent start to the new academic year – thank you for your part in making this happen.

I am writing to share with you some important information about how the school will manage any confirmed case of coronavirus (COVID-19) and how the school will continue to educate our students in the situation of a partial closure. I will also update you about the government's Tiers of Restriction.

Firstly, as you will be aware, the Prime Minister recently launched the 'Hands, Face, Space campaign' urging the public to continue to wash their hands, to cover their face and to make space, to control infection rates and avoid a second infection peak. The new 'Rule of Six' was also introduced from Monday 14th September, which limits any social gatherings of people, indoors and outdoors, to a maximum of six people. This rule also applies to students when they are not at school. Thank you for supporting us as a school by ensuring that your children follow these new rules and guidelines, in order to reduce the risk of an infection in school.

As you know, if any student displays symptoms of coronavirus (a high temperature, a new continuous cough, or a loss or change in sense of smell or taste) they should remain at home and get a test. Booking a test is essential and under 18s must be accompanied by a parent or guardian for a drive-in or walk-in test. As previously shared, in order to book a test, please visit www.nhs.uk/coronavirus or call [NHS 119](tel:119). Current demand for tests is high so it is likely that you will have to try repeatedly in order to secure a test.

Managing a confirmed case in school

Currently any student (or staff member) displaying symptoms of coronavirus should self-isolate at home with their household and arrange a test. The student (or staff member) should remain in isolation, with their household, whilst awaiting test results.

On receipt of the test result, families should immediately inform the school of the results by emailing the Attendance Officer at attendance@haileyburyturnford.com. Please contact the school out of hours if that is when you receive your test result. This information will be shared with me immediately.

If the result is negative the child (or staff member) can return to school, once well.

If the result is positive the school will take the following actions:

1. The student (or staff member) and their household should remain isolated at home (for 10 days from the date of onset of symptoms) and until no fever (for 48 hours) and the household should remain isolated for 14 days from the onset of the original symptoms.
2. As Principal, I will notify Public Health England (HPE) and Herts County Council immediately.
3. The Public Health England Health Protection Team will contact me directly and will undertake a rapid risk assessment.
4. HPE will then direct me as to those contacts in the setting who need to isolate at home for 14 days. The wider household will not need to isolate unless a member of the household is showing symptoms.



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5. As we are organised into 'Year Group Bubbles' and a 'Sixth Form Bubble', it is likely that in the event of a confirmed case, that student's year group, or possibly the whole sixth form will be directed to isolate for 14 days, as well as a number of staff members. This seems to be what is happening at most other Hertfordshire secondary schools where there have already been confirmed positive cases.
6. PHE will provide letters for the School to send out to families advising them of their next steps.
7. I know parents will understand that the identity of a child or a member of staff who is a confirmed case will not be shared.
8. Enhanced cleaning will be in place.
9. Students in self-isolation (the year group bubble, or sixth form bubble), will receive live teaching through Microsoft Teams.
10. If there are further cases I will again liaise with PHE as to next steps and will keep families informed.

Tiers of Restriction

As you may be aware, the government has identified four tiers of restriction that could be implemented in a local area if the circumstances require this. The tiers of restriction are a last resort and the government state that priority is given to vulnerable children and children of critical workers.

The decision to order the closure of schools and childcare settings is one for central government and decisions will be made on a case by case basis in light of local circumstances.

Full details about Tiers of Restrictions at the implications for us are outlined in detail in the Appendix to this letter.

Thank you for your ongoing support and understanding.

Please do not hesitate to contact me directly, your child's Year Achievement Coordinator or relevant member of senior staff should you have any queries. All staff contact details can be found on our website at: <https://haileyburyturnford.com/contact-us/staff/>

We are here to help.

Yours faithfully



Robin Newman
Principal

