HaileyburyTurnford

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25th November 2020

Dear Parent/Carer

Self-isolating means stay at home

Please could I reinforce that if your child is self-isolating it is essential that they remain at home. This is essential to help reduce the potential transmission of COVID-19 in our local communities as rapidly as possible, and for the safety of all persons. Attached to this letter is Hertfordshire County Council's self-isolation guide which gives clear guidance to us.

More specifically, self-isolation due to being a school-based close contact but without symptoms means:

- Your child **does not** leave the home for 14 days because they have or might have coronavirus (COVID-19). This is to help stop the virus spreading to other people. The reason for 14 days is because it can take that long for symptoms to show.
- Your child should **not** leave the house and cannot visit family, friends or attend any activities, even if these are outdoors. They must only exercise at home, either inside or in a private garden. They **cannot** go shopping, attend religious events or services or use public transport or taxis.
- If your child has any routine pre-booked appointments, such as dentist or with an optician, these should be rearranged for when the self-isolation period has ended. They can leave home to receive urgent medical assistance or on the advice of a registered medical practitioner.
- Not being able to attend school **does not** mean that your child has coronavirus and you should **not** book a test for your child, unless they develop symptoms.
- Other members of your household will not be expected to self-isolate due to your child not being able to attend school unless your child develops symptoms.
- If your child develops symptoms while self-isolating at home, your entire household must self-isolate immediately and you should book a test for those with symptoms.

Thank you for your continued support during this period. We will continue to do all we can to provide the highest quality remote curriculum for students self-isolating. At the point of a whole year group being closed, we will deliver live lessons following the full curriculum, as we are currently doing with all Year 10 and 11 students. Attendance at these live lessons has been excellent: thank you for your support and feedback with this new way of working.

Finally, I can clarify that if your child is part of a year group bubble which is completely closed, but is not identified as a school-based close contact, it is not necessary for them to self-isolate on account of the case in school. However, your child should follow all government guidance should they leave the home, but they should not be asked to drop off/pick up a sibling who is still attending school.

Please do not hesitate to contact me directly, or the relevant member of senior staff with oversight of your child's year group should you have any queries.

Yours faithfully

Robin Newman Principal

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Haileybury Turnford, Mill Lane, Cheshunt, EN8 0JU 01992 308333 enquiries@haileyburyturnford.com Principal: Robin Newman MSc MBA

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