



13 July 2021

Year group closure due to high number of COVID cases – Years 8 and 12

Dear Parent

We have been advised by Public Health England that there has been a significant number of confirmed cases of COVID-19 within Years 8 and 12. We know that you may find this concerning but we are continuing to monitor the situation and are working closely with Public Health England.

This letter is to inform you of the current situation and provide advice on how to support your child. Please be reassured that for most people, coronavirus (COVID-19) will be a mild illness. Please **read the information below very carefully**.

1. All Year 8 and 12 students will **not be in school** from **Wednesday 14 July** and will return on Monday **26 July** at the normal time. This is to reduce risk of cross infection and create a 'circuit break'.
2. Any student in Years 8 or 12 that has **been identified a close contact** of a positive cases will have been given **an additional and different letter to this one**. This letter states the dates from which your child needs to self-isolate as they are an identified contact. If this is the case for your child, **they must not return before their self-isolation period has passed and if this is before 26 July they need to work at home until this date along with all other students in their year group**.

Students who have been sent home but are not identified as contacts do not need to self-isolate, we do encourage all students to do twice weekly LFD tests using the kits provided from school or which you can obtain locally.

Provision for lessons

All Year 8 and 12 lessons will now move to **LIVE Teams Meetings as on-line lessons** for the period of closure, these will **start from P1 Tuesday 14 July for Year 12** and from **period 3 for Year 8**. These lessons will be delivered through **Teams** in the same way as they were in the last school closure period. Guidance on this is found on our website [Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) \(theacademycarlton.org.uk\)](http://theacademycarlton.org.uk).

If your child has an issue accessing these lessons due to an issue with their username and password, please email ictrequests@theacademycarlton.org who will endeavour to help them as quickly as possible.

If your child does not have access to a device for accessing live lessons, please contact Mrs Watson at l.watson@theacademycarlton.org. Students will be set homework on Satchel One and they can also access resources to support learning outside of lessons, and especially in the case of having any issues accessing live lessons using Student SharePoint. Help for using this is also found on our website as above.

Students on Free School Meals

We will issue all Year 8 and 12 students who are currently eligible for free school meals with a £20 Tesco voucher as we have done during the lockdown and holiday periods. These will be sent you asap.

What to do if your child develops symptoms of COVID 19



If your child develops symptoms of COVID-19, they should remain at home for at least 10 days from the date when their symptoms appeared. Anyone with symptoms will be eligible for a PCR test (the normally available test type) and this can be arranged via <https://www.nhs.uk/ask-for-acoronavirus-test> or by calling 119.

All other household members who remain well, must stay at home and not leave the house for 10 days. This includes anyone in your 'Support Bubble'.

Further information is available at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-stay-at-homeguidance/stay-at-home-guidance-for-households-with-possible-coronavirus-covid-19-infection>

The household isolation period includes the day the first person in your household's symptoms started (or the day their test was taken if they did not have symptoms) and the next 10 full days. This means that if, for example, your 10 day isolation period starts on the 15th of the month, your isolation period ends at 23:59 hrs on the 25th and you can return to your normal routine.

Household members should not go to work, school or public areas and exercise should be taken within the home. If you require help with buying groceries, other shopping or picking up medication, or walking a dog, you should ask friends or family. Alternatively, you can order your shopping online and medication by phone or online. Household members staying at home for 10 days will greatly reduce the overall amount of infection the household could pass on to others in the community

If you are able, move any vulnerable individuals (such as the elderly and those with underlying health conditions) out of your home, to stay with friends or family for the duration of the home isolation period.

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 COVID19
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/>

Yours sincerely



Richard Pierpoint
Executive Head