Alder Community High School

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Headteacher: Mr R O'Regan BSc (Hons) NPQH

25th October 2020

Dear Parent/Carer

We have been advised by Public Health England that there has been another confirmed case of COVID-19 within the school. We are working closely with Tameside Public Health and following national guidance.

If you have received an official text message from school today, Sunday, 25th October to advise you that your child may have been in close contact with the affected person, this letter will advise you what you need to do. This letter replaces the letter dated 22nd October. In line with the national guidance, we recommend that your child should stay at home and self-isolate up to and including **Thursday, 5th November,** which is 14 days after the last possible contact. **Your child must not come to school until after this date**. Your child will be set a range of curriculum related independent learning tasks which mirror the curriculum in school. The work will be accessed through Microsoft Teams. A video showing how to access Microsoft Teams can be found on the Home Learning page of the school website.

Siblings and other household members do not need to self-isolate unless any of you develop Covid 19 symptoms. We are asking you to do this to reduce the further spread of COVID 19 to others in the community.

If your child is well on **Friday, 6th November 2020**, then they can return to school and their usual activities. A negative test does not mean that they can return to school earlier. Your child does not need to get a test unless they develop symptoms.

Other members of your household can continue normal activities provided your child does not develop symptoms within the self-isolation period.

The following is information from the national guidance:
- If you have been informed that your child is a contact of a person who has had a positive test result for Covid-19 medical advice is clear: your child must immediately self-isolate at home for 14 days from the date of their last contact with them. There is no requirement for other members of your household to self-isolate unless anyone in your household starts to develop symptoms.
- Your child must not attend school.

Link to the national guidance: Covid 19 stay at home guidance for households with possible coronavirus infection.

Symptoms of COVID 19

The most common symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19) are recent onset of:

- new continuous cough and/or
- high temperature and/or
- a loss of, or change in, 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 online from NHS 111 or by phoning 111.

What to do if your child develops symptoms of COVID 19

If your child develops Covid-19 symptoms all members of the household should self-isolate. You should arrange for a test for your child online or by phoning 119. Please contact school if you are having difficulty accessing a test.

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:

- 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/

We understand that this disruption so early in the start of the term is far from ideal, but I am sure you appreciate that we have to follow clear procedures in light of a positive case. Together, our actions will be in the best interests for the health and safety of the school and wider community.

Yours sincerely,

R O'Regan
Headteacher