



Tuesday, 24th November 2020

Re: Positive COVID-19 test

Dear Parents,

I write to provide you with an update following my communication last week. Previous to last week we had experienced only a single instance of a positive test within our school community – that was sometime before half-term. Last week, a pupil tested positive, necessitating approximately sixteen pupils and a very small number of staff being sent home as a precautionary measure.

I now have confirmation that three members of the school's support-services staff (not teaching, boarding or therapy) have tested positive. None of those have been in school since last week, and none had come into close contact with pupils. Nevertheless, some others in the school staff were required to isolate as a precaution in line with the school's internal contact-tracing process and risk-management protocols.

I have also received confirmation that one member of the school's teaching staff has tested positive. That member of staff has not been in school since last week, and became symptomatic over the weekend.

Nevertheless, in line with our procedures, we have sent a further four staff-members home, as well as a class of pupils within Year Seven, a class of Year Nine pupils, three Year Ten pupils and three Lower Sixth pupils. None of those sent home today are symptomatic or have positive tests, but are required to isolate for fourteen days from last Friday's date as a precaution, in line with government guidance. No other pupils or staff-members are required to isolate at this point.

The parents of those pupils required to isolate have already been contacted with explicit instructions, and the majority of those boys have already left the school site. If you have not received such direct communication, your son is not affected, and does not need to isolate. Those pupils sent home will continue to be supported to access their lessons through our remote-learning provision.

With a number of staff now working from home due to temporary isolation precautions – many instances are unrelated to this school, but derive from family members' potential symptoms or situations – the staffing provision on-site is stretched. I am hugely grateful to my colleagues in all departments, all of whom are going above and beyond in order to sustain, as far as possible, a normal More House provision for pupils on site, and for those accessing lessons remotely.

The school continues to follow its procedures, in accordance with U.K. Government direction and local health oversight. It is important that all pupils and employees continue to practise strict hand and mouth hygiene, and physical-distancing measures, as detailed previously. We will continue to remind all pupils of these expectations in school, and ask that you support this through reinforcement of key messages at home. Additional information can be viewed at: <https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus>.

More House School

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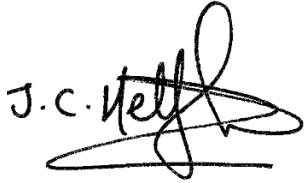
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If your son, or any member of his household develops COVID-19 symptoms, he must not attend school, but must self-isolate and book a test. Please inform the school immediately should your son receive a positive test-result.

Thank you for your support. I wish your son and all members of your family good health for the coming days.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J.C. Hetherington'. The signature is stylized with a large loop at the end and a horizontal line underneath.

Mr Jonathan C. Hetherington BA (Hons) MSc (Ed) QTS
Headmaster