

11 December 2020

Dear Families,

On Thursday 10th December we were closed for one day after having received our fourth positive case (since Saturday 5th December) and deciding that we needed to close in order to assess the situation.

After taking advice PHE and doing a dynamic risk assessment of staffing levels, we decided we could re-open on Friday 11th December.

However, last night we received our fifth positive case which mean that our staffing levels were now a major concern. Therefore we took the decision that Years 8-11 would move to online learning from home for the rest of the term but that we would stay open for Years 5-7.

This morning we received a further 2 positive results (another staff member and pupil). They have not led to any more bubble closures so **there are no more pupils who need to self-isolate**. The last pupils affected (in year 10) received texts last night and a letter this morning. However, these recent positive results have reduced staffing even further.

There is a video from Helen which explains everything here:

https://youtu.be/EQQUC5UO_Z4

Decision to move to online learning:

Therefore, we are now at the point that **we cannot safely staff The Rise site in Feltham**. At this time, this does not affect our sixth form pupils at The Rise site at West Thames College, Isleworth.

Therefore, all pupils in all classes from Year 5 to Year 11 will access their full curriculum from home from Monday 14th December to Thursday 17th December.

As in lockdown 1, all lesson materials will be uploaded onto the VLE for pupils to access. In addition to this, the teachers and TLAs will sign into the lessons at the scheduled time to deliver it 'live': answer questions, give feedback etc.

What to do if your child develops symptoms of COVID 19

Please continue to monitor your child for symptoms and inform us if they receive a positive result. 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.

All other household members who remain well must stay at home and not leave the house for 10 days - this self-isolation period has just been shortened from 14 days by the government.

The 10-day period starts from the day when the first person in the house became ill.

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Household members should not go to work, school or public areas and exercise should be taken within the home.

Household members staying at home for 14 days will greatly reduce the overall amount of infection the household could pass on to others in the community.

Symptoms

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

- new continuous cough and/or
- high temperature
- 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 or anyone in the household does develop symptoms, you can seek advice from NHS 111 at:

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/symptoms/> 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 COVID-19.

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

You can read further information from the Government [here](#) and please don't hesitate to contact me should you have further questions.

Yours sincerely

Helen Ralston

Head Teacher