



Sunday 13th December 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

Further to the MyEd message sent to parents last night, I wanted to write to you to provide you with more information regarding your child specifically and action that you will need to take.

As you will know, upon returning to school your child has been assigned to a bubble, as part of the health and safety measures now in place at New Horizons Children's Academy. This is to ensure we are following government guidelines on social distancing and infection control.

I am writing to inform you that last night **a member of the Year 6 Bubble has tested positive for Coronavirus. It was a single case, associated with Elder class, but after conducting our track and trace procedures, we feel it is in the best interests of the school community to ask all Year 6 classes to isolate for 10 days from the last possible contact.**

After speaking with DFE (Department for Education) this morning we have taken the decision to close the whole year group, with pupils staying home from Monday 14th December 2020 and learning remotely until the end of term.

The DFE confirmed that it is **only** people who have been identified as being in 'close contact' to the positive case who need to self-isolate. It is because of this advice that Year 6 is now closing and these children are required to self-isolate. To clarify, self-isolation means that once your child has reached home they must stay at home, not go to school or public areas, not use public transport, and avoid visitors to the home. For more information on this please visit Gov.uk.

Your child has been identified as being in close contact and must therefore now stay at home and not attend School. We advise your child self-isolates for these 10 days in accordance to the latest government guidelines.

Close contact is defined by Public Health England as '*within 2m for more than 15 minutes*' – therefore your child may have come into '*close contact*' through sitting near to them in a lesson or at break/lunchtime.

Please follow the below steps:

- Your child should self-isolate for 10 days from Tuesday 8th December 2020 (the day the positive case was last in school). The last day of isolation is **Friday 18th December**. This date may be reviewed if any further positive cases occur in Year 6 in the coming days.
- There is no need for your child to take a test **unless** they develop any symptoms.
- The rest of the household does not need to isolate, **unless** someone in the household develops symptoms.
- Please notify the school if your child begins to show symptoms.

As you are aware, we are currently reviewing the whole school response to the developing situation. Please be advised that any siblings can return to school, **unless** they are showing symptoms.

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Your child is expected to return to school on Tuesday 5th January 2021.

Remote Learning - While away from the classroom, children will be provided with work on Seesaw and there will also be opportunities to join in online lessons with their teacher via Teams. You will receive communication regarding online learning tomorrow and work will be available on Seesaw from tomorrow morning.

You will be able to contact the Year 6 team via the parent app on Seesaw if you have any questions regarding the children's learning only. With all other enquiries, please contact the school office who will be able to assist you.

Should you not have a device that your child can use to access the remote learning, please email or telephone the school office and inform us of your individual circumstances where we will be able to offer guidance and support.

We are of course taking this extremely seriously and have acted immediately, liaising closely with the relevant authorities to undertake the necessary action. I'm sure all parents/carers will join me in sending the family our best wishes during this time - all of our thoughts are with you.

It is clear from the support we have received from our wider school community that we are all working very hard to ensure that we are able to keep our school and wider community safe during these times. Whilst this is a challenging time for everyone, we very much value your continued support.

We will continue to keep you updated with any developments and should you have any questions do not hesitate to contact the school. Please continue to stay safe.

Yours sincerely,



Mr C Murphy
Headteacher

TRANSFORMING LIFE CHANCES

