



16<sup>th</sup> November 2020

### **Advice to All Parents/Carers**

Dear Parent/Carer

As you will all be aware, we use an independent catering company within school. Unfortunately, a member of staff within the team has tested positive for Covid-19 over the weekend (this team does not include our midday supervisors).

Whilst the members of staff within the team do socially distance from the students, they do work within close proximity with one another and as a result they will all need to isolate as per Government guidance.

Our kitchen has been thoroughly cleaned. A slightly reduced menu offer is now in place until 27<sup>th</sup> November.

We will ensure that all students who have a free school meal and those who choose to purchase food will still be able to do so. If your child normally brings a packed lunch to school they can continue to do so.

We do not believe that any students or staff members have been in 'standard contact' with the kitchen staff.

Please note, standard contact is determined as:

- a person who has had face-to-face contact (within one metre), with someone who has tested positive for COVID-19, including:
  - being coughed on
  - having a face-to-face conversation within one metre
  - having skin-to-skin physical contact, or
  - contact within one metre for one minute or longer without face-to-face contact
- a person who has been within 2 metres of someone who has tested positive for COVID-19 for more than 15 minutes

The level of contact between the kitchen staff and our children is minimal and should not breach the above. **However, if your child raises a concern that they have been in 'standard contact' with any staff member in the catering team, please contact [office@kirkhallamacademy.co.uk](mailto:office@kirkhallamacademy.co.uk) on or via the school telephone number.**

The advice below is a reminder of what to do should your child develop symptoms:

### **What to do if your child develops symptoms of COVID 19**

If your child develops symptoms of COVID-19, they must not come to school and should remain at home for at least **10 days** from the date when their symptoms appeared.

Anyone with symptoms will be eligible for testing and this can be arranged via <https://www.nhs.uk/ask-for-a-coronavirus-test> or by calling 119.

All other household members who remain well, must stay at home and not leave the house for 14 days. This includes anyone in your 'Support Bubble'.

Further information is available at:

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

The 14-day period starts from the day when the first person in the house became ill. 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 14 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)

Yours sincerely

Damian Belshaw  
Head of School