



SST/ARA

3<sup>rd</sup> November 2020

## Update

Dear Parents and Carers,

We have recently been made aware that two members of staff have tested positive for COVID 19.

We know that you may find this concerning but we are continuing to monitor the situation and are working closely with Public Health England. This letter is to inform you of the current situation and provide you with advice on how to support your child. Please be reassured that for most people, coronavirus (COVID-19) will be a mild illness.

We have contacted the members of staff and we have identified any close contacts, they have been asked to isolate in accordance with the guidance.

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-homeguidance/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)

For most people, coronavirus (COVID-19) will be a mild illness.

If your child does develop symptoms, you can seek advice from the nhs.uk website at <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/check-if-you-have-coronavirus-symptoms/>.

If you are concerned about your child's symptoms, or they are worsening you can seek advice from NHS 111 at <https://111.nhs.uk/> 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:

Further information is available at <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/>.

If your child tests positive for COVID-19, please contact the school to inform us by emailing [enquiries@brookeweston.org](mailto:enquiries@brookeweston.org) or contacting us on 01536 396366.

Public Health England have advised us that we are not required to contact parents after each individual staff case, however we will continue to update parents through our website.

With cases continuing to rise, we appreciate that this will be worrying news for parents. We would like to reassure our school community that all the measures we have implemented adhere to the latest guidance and we continue to do everything we can to minimise the risk for students and staff.

Yours sincerely



Shaun Strydom  
Associate Principal