

Principal: Mark Woodhouse

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25th November 2020

Dear Parents and Carers

Re: Year 11 Closure due to positive COVID-19 cases

Further to the communication that you will have received yesterday evening about positive COVID-19 cases in our Year 11 bubble, I have been liaising with the relevant health authorities and our trust, ATT, about the appropriate course of action to take next. At this stage, I can confirm the following:

- As a precaution, all Year 11 students are to remain at home for the rest of the week, Thursday 26th and Friday 27th November. This will allow ATT to facilitate a deeper clean of the Year 11 bubble area. Learning for all students on Thursday and Friday will be via Microsoft Teams. Students need to follow their normal timetabled lessons at the normal lesson times. Teachers of Year 11 will then deliver a 'live' teacher element supplemented with additional work. Siblings of students in Year 11 can continue to attend the academy or their own schools as normal. Anyone living in the same household as a Year 11 student can also continue with their normal activities.
- Any students who have been contacted and identified as a 'close contact' over the last 3 days will need to remain isolated for the 14-day duration; again, as outlined in the letter they will have received. As previously stated, anyone living in the same household as an identified close contact can still continue with normal activities such as going to college or work unless your child develops symptoms, in which case you need to follow the NHS guidance around testing and isolating. This also includes any siblings, who can continue to attend their school or academy, including our own.
- We will update all of parents of Year 11 students by the end of the week once we have had further directives and advice from the relevant health authorities on any further steps that we may need to take.

Please can I ask that if your child does develop COVID-19 symptoms, is tested and receives a positive test result that you inform us as soon as you can so that we can consider this as we make further decisions.

As I highlighted in my previous communications we understand that this will be a worrying time for all students in Year 11 and their families. Given the challenging circumstances that coronavirus presents we have been using all the advice, guidance and direction available to make our decisions. To try to provide a little reassurance, I have spoken with the Norfolk Outbreak Management Team this morning who have assessed our response to these cases and they have confirmed that the precautionary steps that we are taking are exactly the ones that we should take given our context.

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Determined to be...

'the best that we can be'



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Given the measures we have taken, and are continuing to take, we hope that the students who have not been classified as close contacts will be able to return to the academy at some point next week but we will confirm this before the weekend.

As always, thank you for your understanding and support in this matter.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'M Woodhouse', followed by a small dash.

Mark Woodhouse
Principal