



HYDE PARK JUNIOR SCHOOL



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Dear Hyde Park Families,

We have now had a chance to settle back into school life after our lockdown closure. The children have settled into their new routines brilliantly, a reflection of how well we have worked together as a community to make them feel safe and secure.

Part of us living with coronavirus is to be prepared for members of our school community needing to isolate and therefore not be able to attend school – this is true of both pupils and staff. In order to minimize the disruption to children's learning in the event of them having to isolate **all lessons taught in school are also available on the VLE for those pupils who are at home.**

Mr Dellow has worked closely with Public Health England to understand the decision making processes regarding isolation and testing.

Anyone who has not had symptoms of covid-19 does not need to isolate unless they have been in close contact with someone who has tested positive. You should not go for a test if you do not have symptoms. Other control measures such as good ventilation are advised by the government but will not mitigate against the need to close bubbles in the event of close contact occurring.

When defining who will self-isolate in the event of a positive test, Public Health England will rely on the correct identification of close contacts. However, 'contacts of contacts' will not need to self-isolate. A close contact is :

- 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

It is inevitable that any staff working in a bubble to support learning will result in some form of close contact. Therefore, if a pupil tested positive in one class, a staff member would have to self-isolate if they had supported learning in that room. However, since the staff member themselves would not have tested positive or exhibited symptoms, the members of other classes site staff member has worked in are not close contacts to the person testing positive, but rather contacts of contacts. This does not therefore necessitate them self- isolating. A positive case in one bubble would not mean the automatic closing of another bubble just because a staff member had worked in both.



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If we have positive cases in school then we will consult Public Health England for a precise outcome, and the advice on any particular case could require a different response due to changing guidelines, but our planned response for some possible scenarios is as follows:

Scenario	Outcome
Teacher tests positive	Their class bubble will be closed and self-isolate, including any staff that have supported learning in that room. Other bubbles will be monitored but not closed.
Pupil tests positive	Their class bubble will be closed and self-isolate, including any staff that have supported learning in that room. Other bubbles will not be closed.
Staff supporting learning across bubbles tests positive	Staff member will need to self-isolate. All bubbles containing pupils which the staff member has worked with will be closed.
Meal time assistants working across two bubbles	MTAs are not to breach close contact advice and should maintain distance whenever possible. Provided they do not breach the close contact rules listed above, a pupil testing positive will not mean the MTA needs to self-isolate. If the MTA themselves tests positive, no closure is required unless the MTA has breached close contact.

If your child needs to isolate and is unable therefore to attend school, you will find their learning online on the VLE. As during lockdown, these lessons are recorded by our HPJS staff teaching our HPJS curriculum. Your child will soon bring home their Home Learning Book, which should be used for any home learning done during isolation or lockdown. In the front cover of this book is a reminder of various logons, including for their VLE access.

The online lessons available on the VLE are also an excellent way of seeing what your child is doing in class and allowing them to have some additional practice of the material if you think this will be beneficial. Online material is available each day for every class.

Thank you for your continued support in trying to keep everyone safe in these challenging times.

Best wishes,
Miss Jackson.