

Friday 19<sup>th</sup> March 2021

Dear Parents/Carers,

**Direction to 7T, and 5 associated friends to self-isolate from and including  
Friday 19<sup>th</sup> – Wednesday 31<sup>st</sup> March 2021**

We have, as part of our standard Lateral Flow Testing our students, today had a positive test of one of the students on your child's class, 7T. In consultation with Public Health and the Local Authority, and having followed the national guidance, we have identified 7T and the 5 close friends of the young person diagnosed as being in contact with the Positive test person. You are receiving this letter as your child falls within this identified group of Year 7 students.

As you can see, the importance of the testing routine is so important. The situation we have has arisen from a positive test result from an asymptomatic young person. Without the current testing routine in place this would not have come to light and the spread of the virus would have been more significant and serious.

As the last contact with this young person was today, Friday 19<sup>th</sup> March, in line with the national guidance, your child must stay at home and self-isolate for 10 full days **after the date they were last in contact with the person who tested positive**. Your child must therefore self-isolate up to and including Wednesday 31<sup>st</sup> March. This means that they can stop self-isolating from Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> April. We are asking you to do this to reduce the further spread of COVID 19 to others in the community.

If your child is well, we look forward to seeing them in school after the Easter closure on Monday 19<sup>th</sup> April. We will be arranging for you to receive the Home Testing Kits whilst your child is at home. Please continue to test twice weekly and follow the instructions in the separate leaflet. You will receive more information about this next week.

Sadly, this means that they will miss the end of term, however, they will be able to access their learning through our on-line real time teaching which takes place in such circumstances. This will start for 7T from 8.30am on Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> March when they have their usual form period.

For additionally identified contacts not in 7T, work packs will be provided for completion at home initially. We are trying to arrange for their normal lessons to be accessible at the usual time from the classroom with their fellow classmates. We will contact you separately about this.

As you will appreciate, we have not taken this decision lightly. However, we must do all we can to contain the spread of the virus, whilst at the same time limiting the impact on the education, learning and progress of our Year 7 students at a time when they have already had such an impact on their learning with the two on-site closures we have experienced within this last year, since March 2020.

They need to stay at home for the full 10 days because it can take 10 days for symptoms of COVID-19 to develop. If your child does not stay at home, there is a chance that they could pass on COVID-19 to someone else, even if they feel well. Even if they never develop symptoms, they can still be infected

and pass the virus on without knowing it. Other members of your household can continue normal activities provided your child does not develop symptoms within this period of self-isolation. If they do you should self-isolate and secure a test for you and your child and follow the advice given.

We are asking you to do this to reduce the further spread of COVID 19 to others in the community.

Please see the link to the PHE 'Stay at Home' Guidance: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-stay-at-home-guidance/stayat-home-guidance-for-households-with-possible-coronavirus-covid-19-infection>

#### **Self-isolation means they should:**

- stay at home;
- ask friends or family members to bring them things they need such as medication and groceries or use delivery services for shopping which must be left outside your home for you to collect;
- as much as possible, separate themselves from others with the door closed or stay at least 2 metres (6 feet) away from people in your home;
- stay away from vulnerable individuals such as the elderly and those with underlying conditions as much as possible;
- stay in a well-ventilated room with a window that can be opened to keep air moving;
- sleep alone, if possible;
- clean toilet/bathrooms after their use if you share then with others (wiping surfaces they have come into contact with every time);
- wash their hands regularly for 20 seconds, each time using soap and water;
- use separate towels at all times from others in the household;
- stay in touch with others over the phone or through social media

#### **They should not:**

- go to school, public areas or use public transport or taxis;
- mix with other children (no play dates/ sleepovers etc.)
- go outside unless they have access to your own garden;
- invite people into their/your home;
- share towels, bedding or eating utensils and dishes, cups and glasses.

If your child is well at the end of the period of self-isolation, then they can return to usual activities.

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

For most people, COVID-19 will be a mild illness. However, if your child develops symptoms of COVID-19, they should stay isolating at home for at least 10 days from the date when their symptoms appeared and have a PCR test as soon as possible. A test can be booked here: <https://www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test>

All other household members who remain well must stay at home and not leave the house for 10 days.

**If the PCR test result is negative** – your child must continue to self-isolate until the end of the original 10 full days, as they could still develop COVID-19. The rest of the household can stop isolating, unless someone gets new symptoms.

**If the PCR test result is positive** – your child must self-isolate for 10 full days from when their symptoms started. The rest of the family will also need to self-isolate for 10 full days from when your child's symptoms started.

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 10 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 of COVID 19**

The most common symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19) are recent onset of:

- new continuous cough and/or
- high temperature and/or
- 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 NHS 111 at <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/check-if-you-have-coronavirus-symptoms/> 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 is available at

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/>

### **Arrangements for learning during the Tutor group 7T, self-isolation period 19<sup>th</sup> – 31<sup>st</sup> March inclusive**

**From Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> March, all 7T's lessons will be taking place on Teams.** All their teaching will be live on-line delivery at their normal lesson times. Positive and engaging behaviours for learning are always expected. We will not allow any student's learning to be further disrupted. **There will be an assembly for 7T Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> March at 8.40am** so we can talk through the arrangements which we have in place for such occasions. Registers and student attendance will be checked at each lesson and messages will be sent home if a student is not in attendance. Key contacts for you at this time are:

Mrs K Prasad: Head Year 7 [kprasad@conisboroughcollege.co.uk](mailto:kprasad@conisboroughcollege.co.uk)

Ms C Kirk: Achievement Leader for Year 7 [ckirk@conisboroughcollege.co.uk](mailto:ckirk@conisboroughcollege.co.uk)

Ms R Fossett: Assistant Headteacher and SLT Lead for Year 7 [rfossett@conisboroughcollege.co.uk](mailto:rfossett@conisboroughcollege.co.uk)

You should all be appropriately dressed (school uniform need not be worn) and ready to work in an appropriate place at home, equipped with your pens etc. and ready to learn. We are aware that some of your exercise books maybe at school. Your teachers have planned for this. Most of your lessons will be coming from your normal classroom at school. If you have been provided with a school computer you are expected to be on line too, for your learning.

Your teachers will want you to participate in the learning and will take your mics on and off mute to enable this to happen. We do not expect any incidences of poor or disrespectful behaviour. We encourage parents /carers as far as possible to be present at the lessons and to listen to what is being taught and said.

You will all be following your normal timetable including PE lessons. Our online provision during this period means that no learning time needs to be lost. Contact with Year 7T will be maintained through their school email addresses. If you are unsure how-to login to Teams please email: Ms Prasad, Ms Kirk or Ms Fossett on their email addresses in the first instance. We will ensure that your queries are responded to.

There will also be assemblies as usual on Friday morning at 8.40am, we expect to see all the students there with their peers who are in their class rooms. Your child's proper name must appear on screen as we also take registers for every lesson and every assembly. This means their **full first and second names**.

All Year 7 students are aware of how often we repeatedly remind them, (indeed nag) about the importance of keeping to all the routines we have in place for social distancing, hand hygiene, respiratory hygiene and no physical contact – **Hands, Face, Space**. This is very important, and we urge parents to reinforce this with your child. We must all do our bit to contain the virus in every way possible and keep to the national restriction guidance, including going home straight away after school. All students must come to school with a supply of masks and follow all expectations of safe behaviour as outlined in our 'Safe On Site' document as well as the national Lock down restrictions which are still in place.

**I cannot reinforce strongly enough the need for responsible behaviour at this time and the necessity of keeping to social distancing, using hand sanitiser and wearing a face covering in communal settings when social distancing cannot be guaranteed.** It is a hugely important part of the measures we and everyone else are taking to contain the spread of the virus. We do appreciate and understand that for many, this will be very disappointing. So many of our Year 7 students have worked very hard, been in school and are doing their best in challenging times. We will continue to do everything we can to ensure your children's progress is not hampered by these uncertain times. If you have any questions or concerns, please email Ms Prasad, Ms Kirk or Ms Fossett on the email addresses provided in this letter.

Please do always reinforce the importance of safe CoVid behaviour by your child. We want everyone to have a healthy and happy Easter Break this year.

Yours sincerely



Mrs J Hadlow  
Headteacher