



## CV19 FAQs

15th January 2021

**Public Heath England have confirmed a case of coronavirus in the academy.** Below are some answers to frequently asked questions.

### **How many cases of Coronavirus have been confirmed?**

Only one case has been confirmed at the academy. We have followed a comprehensive track and trace and identified that no students have had contact with the confirmed case, either in lesson or at social times, No students will be asked to self-isolate. No other members of staff need to self-isolate on this occasion.

### **Which year group is affected?**

The student is in Year 10.

### **Have the classrooms been cleaned?**

The student affected has not attended the academy during the infectious period. Thorough cleaning continues to take place in school.

### **Why isn't the academy closing?**

The student affected has not attended the academy during the infectious period. We continue to enforce the systems of control in place such as hand washing, good respiratory hygiene, enhanced cleaning and protected groups. We will also continue to ask any essential visitors inside school to wear a face covering, although their access is severely restricted in accordance with updated guidance.

### **How do I know if I came into contact with the infected person?**

As we keep a record of what contacts are made we know that no one came into close contact with the infected person.

### **Why are there up to 30 students in a class?**

School classes for eligible students can return to normal, which for us will be up to 30 students per class. We would not be able to have classes of 15 and have everybody eligible to attend do so full time. The government guidance is clear that schools are not allowed to have part-time provision or a rota in place for eligible students, and that students are able to sit next to each other in lessons.

### **If we have been in contact with a parent/child that has been asked to self-isolate by the school, are we also required to self-isolate and then track those we have subsequently had contact with also?**

No, the advice to self-isolate from PHE is only for those who had direct contact. If you develop symptoms then you should self-isolate along with your household and let us know.

### **Is it safe for students to go to school?**

We have followed a comprehensive track and trace and identified that no students have had contact with the confirmed case, either in lesson or at social times. There is no reason at this stage to suggest any children are affected and the year group bubbles are operating as normal.

**Will it be better to keep the children home a bit longer until this episode is over?**

Due to the systems in place we have been able to quickly identify that no one came into close contact with the infected person, and have been advised that it is safe for school to be open for eligible students.

**Can you confirm more details of the infected person?**

As you might expect I am not able to release any further details of the person in respect to their privacy. As explained above, we know who this person was and that they were not in close contact with students.

**I want to keep my daughter at home but she is eligible to come in, can I do this?**

We can understand your concerns and we wouldn't open the school to eligible students if we didn't feel that situation was contained.

**Can children wear masks in school and in classrooms to prevent it?**

In accordance with the current national lockdown, the academy policy on face coverings has been updated so that face masks are compulsory in all internal social/communal areas. A few children are wearing a face covering in classrooms and that is ok if they can take responsibility for wearing it, and using it correctly. However, the government guidance is that students currently do not need to wear them in classes, as there are other measures in place.

**My child is eligible to come in, what happens if I don't send my child in?**

We will be in touch to have a conversation and discuss your concerns.