



BEVERLEY HIGH SCHOOL



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Dear Parent / Carer

I hope this letter finds you safe and well. I am writing to provide you with an update now that all year groups have been back for at least 5 days. I am so impressed with the pupils of Beverley High School, they have adapted to our 'new normal' in such a positive way. I am immensely grateful to you also, for the way you have supported your children on their return to school; support from parents has been crucial for the smooth transition back to school after such a long time away.

You may be aware of a few teething issues we have had. Please be reassured that every decision we make is based on the health and wellbeing of all pupils and staff and where issues have been raised we use all the information available to us to respond safely and sensibly. We will continue to review our procedures and risk assessments and change them if required.

Symptoms and Testing

I appreciate the concerns from other students and their parents/carers should a member of a child's bubble appear to be unwell. However, we are into the cold and flu season and as a general rule, pupils can come to school as long as they don't have one of the three symptoms the NHS regard as the most common symptoms of Coronavirus and they are well enough to do so. These symptoms are described as:

- a high temperature – this means you feel hot to touch on your chest or back
- a new, continuous cough – this means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours
- a loss or change to your sense of smell or taste – this means you've noticed you cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal

Most people with Coronavirus have at least one of these symptoms

I understand there have been difficulties in some people getting relevant tests but it is important that if your child has any of the above symptoms they should isolate at home (along with the rest of the household) in-line with government guidance, or until a test has proved to be negative. You will find relevant advice by following the link here:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-stay-at-home-guidance/stay-at-homeguidance-for-households-with-possible-coronavirus-covid-19-infection>



If a child becomes unwell at school with any of the symptoms above, they will need to go home and follow government guidance.

Suspected cases and confirmed cases

As soon as a person displays any of the three symptoms, it is considered a 'suspected' case until a test is done and a result is returned. If a test is positive, it becomes a 'confirmed' case. It is important we are clear about the difference. In the event of 'suspected' cases, there is no need for communication from the school to parents as most suspected cases turn out not to be COVID-19. In the event of a positive case of a pupil or a member of staff, the school will take advice from Public Health and communicate with all affected pupils and parents as quickly as possible.

Unfortunately, despite our best efforts, there may be a time when we need to send pupils home. This would be if there is a positive case of COVID-19 in a bubble or if the number of staff required to isolate becomes so great the school cannot open safely.

What happens if pupils are required to stay at home?

If a child is isolating at home and they are well enough to complete school work, this will be provided through their school emails/Edulink. In the event of a bubble being sent home, we are expecting to provide a mixture of work that involves some teacher led lessons whether that is 'live' through a medium like Microsoft Teams or a recorded lesson that students can access through our YouTube channel. This would be done alongside standard textbook work or working through teacher powerpoints etc. We are working on the finer details of this blended approach as it becomes complex if the teacher themselves is absent, though we have invested in equipment for all staff to be able to work from home where their health permits. We will do all we can to try and give some semblance of normal education.

If a child would have problems accessing work at home through lack of relevant technology, please let the school know and we will endeavour to loan out some equipment.

Social Distancing

I would be very grateful if you could discuss with your child the need for social distancing before they arrive and once they have left the school site. Year groups are arriving/leaving from different exits, but it appears some pupils are congregating outside of school. It is important that children are aware of the risks posed if they do not follow the guidelines. We can all reduce the risk of catching or spreading Coronavirus by observing the social distancing rules. You will find the guidance using this link:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-meeting-with-others-safely-social-distancing/coronavirus-covid-19-meeting-with-others-safely-social-distancing>

I do not underestimate the challenges we have ahead of us, but we will do everything we can to ensure the safety of your child(ren), our staff and all of our families going forward.

Stay safe and well

Yours sincerely



Ms S Japp
Headteacher

