

20<sup>th</sup> October 2020  
15:30

Dear Families,

**Re: COVID Procedures Health and Safety Visit and reminder of COVID procedures and guidance**

I am very pleased to inform you during a Health and Safety visit from Public Protection (Telford and Wrekin Council), regarding the COVID-secure procedures at Burton Borough School, the Lead Health and Safety Advisor said that our procedures were '**exemplary**'.

**Feedback from the Health and Safety Visit**

Following her visit, she concluded the following:

- The system of controls that are required have all been applied and were very evident during the visit
- The contact between individuals was minimised and managed well
- The safety of the school workforce has been effectively managed and the controls adhered to, to enable staff to return to school safely
- Great use of screens in all key areas and one to one working areas for both staff and pupils
- Clear and informative signage giving instruction, information and advice for all users of the building on necessary COVID - 19 controls.
- Comprehensive access and use of hand hygiene throughout the building
- Social distancing measures in all education and core areas
- Evidence of effective grouping of pupils both internally and externally
- Clear one way systems where needed
- Good use of internal and external areas to minimise contact with individuals
- Excellent level of enhanced cleaning
- Embedded use of face coverings
- Comprehensive system to minimise contact with individuals who are unwell – this includes ensuring staff, pupils and visitors do not come into school if they have COVID symptoms



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We are very proud that all of the measures we have put in place have been recognised and that we are above and beyond the standards we are required to meet.

This has not only been down to the hard work of staff at Burton Borough, but also through the support of our families and community. **A huge thank you to you all!**

### **Reminder of COVID procedures so that we can continue to keep our community safe**

**Masks/Face Coverings:** Please ensure that your child is equipped with the sufficient amount of face coverings each day. We are noticing an increase of students requesting a mask when they come to school. Although the number of students requesting a mask is low at the moment, we urge that all families check that their child has a face covering before coming to school as we cannot keep supplying them with masks.

All of our students are at an age where masks are mandatory in shops and public transport so should already have their own supply. Please make sure that not only are they wearing these in school, but also out in the community.

**Self-isolation:** All students who are self-isolating following the student testing positive for COVID-19 on Friday **must** stay indoors at home and must not go out into the community.

Please also speak to your child if they are in year groups/ Year 9 x half who do not need to self-isolate about not meeting with friends indoors or outdoors who they know should be isolating e.g. Year 9 Y half plus 14 students.

All students who are required to self-isolate because of the case we had on Friday know who they are. However, we are unable to enforce this when students are out of school, so collectively as a community, we need to all work together to keep each other safe. We will constantly remind students where possible and appropriate.

### **The guidelines on when to self-isolate immediately from the NHS is as follows:**

- you have **any** symptoms of coronavirus (a high temperature, a new, continuous cough or a loss or change to your sense of smell or taste)
- you've tested positive for coronavirus – this means you have coronavirus
- **you live with someone who has symptoms or tested positive**
- someone in your support bubble has symptoms or tested positive
- you're told to self-isolate by NHS Test and Trace or the NHS COVID-19 app
- you arrive in the UK from a country with a high coronavirus risk – see GOV.UK: how to self-isolate when you travel to the UK

### **Guidance from the NHS on what not to do if you are self-isolating is as follows:**

- do not go to work, school or public places – work from home if you can
- do not go on public transport or use taxis



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- do not go out to get food and medicine – order it online or by phone, or ask someone to bring it to your home
- do not have visitors in your home, including friends and family – except for people providing essential care
- do not go out to exercise – exercise at home or in your garden, if you have one

Please follow the usual absence procedures if your child develops symptoms and let school know so that we can code your child correctly on our registers.

### **Looking Ahead**

As you will be aware, Newport remains at Tier 1 (Medium Risk) of the government's new three tier system. However, the number of positive COVID-19 cases in Telford and Wrekin increased by 45% in the week ending 4<sup>th</sup> October 2020 and nationally, it is also increasing.

With the two students we have had testing positive (it is highly likely that these cases were from family members and not contracted within school) and the number of cases rising in the area and in other local schools, we need to be doing all that we can to avoid Newport moving into Tier 2 (High Risk). Please keep speaking to your children about the importance of social distancing and wearing a face covering. Once again, I would like to acknowledge families who may not agree with these procedures but who are supporting the school with its decisions.

We are currently in the process of reviewing our practices and procedures and hope to release any changes to families soon, ready for the new half term.

Yours sincerely,



Krissi Carter  
Principal



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