Information for Parents regarding COVID19 Contact Tracing over the Christmas Holiday period

11th December 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

I am writing to clarify the expectations around reporting cases of COVID19 and undertaking contact tracing over the Christmas holiday period.

As you know schools have played a vital role in reducing the spread of COVID19 over the last 9 months. One way in which they have done this is by undertaking contact tracing on behalf of the London Contact Tracing team. They identify and contact any individuals who have been in close contact with someone who has tested positive for COVID19, during the time that is considered the contagious period. This is from 2 days before the person's symptoms are displayed. Those individuals are then required to self-isolate for 14 days because they are at risk of having contracted COVID19.

This contact tracing will not be taking place in the usual way during the Christmas break when schools are closed and there is less chance of school-based contacts existing. Please follow the guidance below if your child begins to show symptoms of COVID19 during the Christmas break.

If your child develops symptoms of COVID19 <u>within 48 hours</u> of being in school -

You must seek a test for your child and the household must isolate at home until the test result is returned. You should let the school know that this has occurred. Please email Mrs Andews <u>office@ashmoleprimary.org</u>

The quickest way to obtain a test is to book a test at your local testing centre via <u>https://www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test</u>.

If the test result is positive for COVID19, you must inform Mrs Andrews at the school office@ashmoleprimary.org who will identify if there are any other individuals within the school community who are impacted by this.

If you are contacted by the school and your child is identified as a close contact of someone who has tested positive for COVID19, she/he must self-isolate for 14 days.

If the test result is negative, you should inform the school and you do not need to take any further action.

If your child develops symptoms of COVID19 <u>more than 48 hours</u> after their last day in school -

You must seek a test for your child and the household must isolate at home until the test result is returned. If the test result is positive for COVID-19, having developed symptoms more than 48 hours since being in school, you must contact NHS Test and Trace and follow the advice given by them: www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/testing-and-tracing/

You should contact the school regarding absence in time for the first day of the new term.

If the test result is negative, you should inform the school and you do not need to take any further action.

I would encourage you to adhere to social distancing and all COVID19 social mixing guidance for the remainder of term to reduce the risk of transmission of the virus as the last thing we want is anyone being unwell or required to self-isolate over the holiday period.

Thank you for your cooperation and ongoing support.

Yours sincerely

Mr Tofallis
Head Teacher