

Tuesday 20th October 2020

RE: Confirmed Case in Year 11

Dear Parents / Carers,

Today we have been notified that a student in Year 11 has tested positive for Covid-19. Following the communication from the parent, we have contacted the Department for Education and the Local Authority and we have acted upon their advice.

The Local Authority asked us to complete our own track and trace, identifying students who have been in close contact with the student who has tested positive. This has involved identifying friendship groups, looking at seating plans, identifying rooms used on the last day the student was in school, transport arrangements for the student etc.

From this, we have identified students in Year 11 who will need to self-isolate and those students have received a letter informing them of this requirement.

For the rest of Year 11, the decision has been made that as a precautionary measure, they will engage in remote education on Wednesday 21st and Thursday 22nd October, with Friday 23rd October being a training day. The reason this decision has been made is that it will allow a deep clean of the Year 11 classrooms, something that would not be possible if the year group remained on site.

Please note that unless your son / daughter has been identified as a close contact (in which case you would have received a communication informing you of this fact) there is no requirement for a period of self-isolation.

Remote education will be carried out using the same method adopted during the previous national lockdown, which is through Microsoft Teams. Not only will staff set work through this platform, but students will also be required to upload their completed work through Microsoft Teams.

If you do not have access to the internet, or a device for your child to work on, we will provide paper copies of work, as was the case during closure in the Summer Term.

Online learning sessions will also take place and will be as per your son's / daughter's school timetable. For example, if students would have English Period 1 on Thursday, there will be a live learning session through Teams at 9.10am, the time of their usual lesson. Please note that all online sessions will take place in accordance with the school's Remote Learning Policy, which is available on our website.

It is essential that your child engages with remote learning during the two days of partial closure. If you have any queries about how to manage home learning, please get in touch with your child's House Leader.

STBA is proud to be part of the



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Families of students with SEND will be contacted to discuss methods of providing support.

Safeguarding

We have revised and updated our Child Protection and Safeguarding Policy to ensure we can correctly support pupils who are attending school and those learning from home.

You or your child can report a safeguarding concern to the school's designated safeguarding lead, Mrs Robbins, in confidence by contacting them on 01782 729400.

Mental health concerns

During this period, you should be aware of the mental health support available to your child. We have collated the following examples of where additional support can be found:

- <https://northstaffswellbeing.co.uk/>
- Public Health England's (PHE) Every Mind Matters platform
- MindEd – a free educational resource on children and young people's mental health for all adults
- Rise Above – a website where users can find support and read stories of others.
- Childline – pupils can call or talk online to seek emotional support and advice.
- Kooth – an online wellbeing hub for anyone suffering with their mental health.

If you need to contact the school for any reason, please do not hesitate to do so by emailing covid19@stb.academy or calling 01782 729400 and your call will be directed appropriately.

Thank you as always for your cooperation in ensuring the safety of our pupils and staff.

Yours sincerely,



Mrs Jane Hingley

