

Watergate School
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Dear families,

RE: Confirmed case of coronavirus (COVID-19) in school

I am writing to inform you that an individual, who has been at school, has tested positive for coronavirus (COVID19).

The individual has not been in school since they developed symptoms and has been self-isolating at home, as per government advice. They have since accessed a test and have tested positive.

We have been working closely with Lewisham Public Health to identify all pupils and staff members who may have been contacts of this individual and they have been asked to stay at home and advised to self-isolate for 14 days. You will have been contacted directly via telephone if you or your child need to self-isolate, or to stay at home for any reason – if you have not been contacted, you do not need to take any action at this point.

If your child is in the affected group, the other members of your household are not required to self-isolate unless your child subsequently develops symptoms.

All staff and pupils will be able to access a test if they begin to display symptoms of coronavirus. If your child does develop symptoms, I strongly advise that you do this. You can apply for a test on the NHS website <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/testing-and-tracing/ask-for-a-test-to-check-if-you-have-coronavirus/> or call NHS 119 if unable to access the internet. If you encounter any difficulty we have a very limited number of tests available in school.

If other cases are detected in the school, Public Health England's local health protection teams will conduct a rapid investigation and will advise us on any further actions that need to be taken. This may include more pupils and staff being sent home to self-isolate. You will be kept fully informed of any developments.

I would like to reassure you that we take any suspected and confirmed case of coronavirus very seriously and act rapidly to protect the children and staff.

I understand that you may find this news worrying, so please get in touch with the school office on 020 8695 6555 to discuss any concerns.

I am sure you will all join me in wishing the individual a safe and speedy recovery.

Kind regards

Fiona Veitch
Interim Headteacher

