



CALLINGTON COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Launceston Road, Callington, Cornwall, PL17 7DR

Tel: (01579) 383292 Fax: (01579) 383562 E-mail: enquiries@callingtoncc.net

Website: www.callingtoncc.net

Principal: Mrs Wendy Ainsworth



WA

15 November 2020

REF: Update Regarding Confirmed Cases of COVID-19/Staff Absence

Dear Parents and Carers

Further to my letter on Friday, I have been informed of an additional two staff members who have tested positive over the weekend. They became symptomatic over the weekend and have received results today. I have additionally advised a further five staff members to self-isolate who have been in close contact with these staff members and additionally some students who have been within a 2 metre distance from these positive staff members (all of these children have been advised separately).

Owing to the significance of staffing levels being depleted and its associated difficulties with being able to deliver a quality curriculum and ensure we can safeguard all students and a strong commitment to the health and well-being of all, I have made the decision to **close the College** to all students from **Monday 16th November to Wednesday 18th November**. We will review our availability to open on Thursday and Friday following a review of staff availability and I will advise on Wednesday afternoon. This was not an easy decision to make and I am hugely mindful of the difficulties this may present to some families and I do not underestimate the increased worry and concern that this will cause. I feel that this is my safest course of action, given the shortfall in staffing and my desire to keep our College community safe. During this time, only those children individually contacted should self-isolate this week and family members are not required to additionally isolate. This is precaution only and they have been advised to seek testing only if they develop symptoms.

Whilst the College is closed, students will continue to receive their learning remotely. This may be in the form of a 'live' lesson. Our availability to do this depends on many factors, including whether staff have small children of their own at home. Mrs Campbell will send out more details on this, together with the expectations and protocols with live lessons.

For families in receipt of free school meals, we are able to offer a controlled collection of a meal from our canteen. This will be a cold packed lunch and can be ordered via email. Please email avril@callingtoncc.net if you wish to order and arrange collection. Meals cannot be prepared without advanced notice.

Finally, I include details below of what to do if you suspect your child or members of your family have symptoms of COVID 19 and control measures to prevent its spread.



I will continue to update you if I am informed of anything further. Many apologies to you all for the receipt of this news on a Sunday afternoon and I hope it doesn't create too many issues for you. As always, stay safe, happy and well

Yours sincerely



Wendy Ainsworth
Principal

What to do if your child develops symptoms of COVID 19

If your child develops symptoms of COVID-19, they must not come to school and should remain at home for at least **10 days** from the date when their symptoms appeared. Anyone with symptoms will be eligible for testing and this can be arranged via <https://www.nhs.uk/ask-for-a-coronavirus-test> or by calling 119.

All other household members who remain well, must stay at home and not leave the house for 14 days. This includes anyone in your 'Support Bubble'.

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

The 14-day period starts from the day when the first person in the house became ill.

Household members should not go to work, school or public areas and exercise should be taken within the home.

If you require help with buying groceries, other shopping or picking up medication, or walking a dog, you should ask friends or family. Alternatively, you can order your shopping online and medication by phone or online.

Household members staying at home for 14 days will greatly reduce the overall amount of infection the household could pass on to others in the community

If you are able, move any vulnerable individuals (such as the elderly and those with underlying health conditions) out of your home, to stay with friends or family for the duration of the home isolation period.

Symptoms

The most common symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19) are recent onset of:

- a new continuous cough
- a high temperature
- a loss of, or change in, your normal sense of taste or smell (anosmia)

For most people, coronavirus (COVID-19) will be a mild illness.

If your child does develop symptoms, you can seek advice from the nhs.uk website at <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/check-if-you-have-coronavirus-symptoms/>. If you are concerned about your child's symptoms, or they are worsening you can seek advice from NHS 111 at <https://111.nhs.uk/> or by phoning 111.

How to stop COVID-19 spreading

There are things you can do to help reduce the risk of you and anyone you live with getting ill with COVID-19

Do

- wash your hands with soap and water often – do this for at least 20 seconds
- use hand sanitiser gel if soap and water are not available
- wash your hands as soon as you get home
- cover your mouth and nose with a tissue or your sleeve (not your hands) when you cough or sneeze
- put used tissues in the bin immediately and wash your hands afterwards

Further Information

Further information is available at <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/>