

2nd September 2020

Dear families

We hope you have managed to have an enjoyable summer.

As we begin the new school year we would like to use the opportunity to update you of the current guidelines in place in relation to Covid-19 following government advise.

We are now fully open to all staff and pupils and we will continue to work together to protect our Dysart community to keep everyone as safe as possible.

We will continue to check each student's temperature on arrival to school, and at various intervals throughout the school day if there are any concerns.

If you or a member of your household are displaying any of the symptoms below, please keep your child at home.

Symptoms currently include:

- **a new continuous cough** - this means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours (if you usually have a cough, it may be worse than usual)
- and /or
- **a high temperature** - this means you feel hot to touch on your chest or back (if you are not able to measure temperature)
 - **loss or change to your sense of smell or taste** - this means you've noticed that you cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal. Although this is a symptom that adults may be more aware of, we appreciate this symptom is more difficult to diagnose with our students. If you are worried in regards to your child's appetite, sensory changes to food they would usually enjoy/avoid please do discuss this with School/School nurse.

If any members of your family/household are displaying any of these symptoms you will need to self-isolate for 14 days from the day the first family member's symptom(s) started. This is because it can take 14 days for the virus to spread within your household and for any symptoms to appear.

If you/your child are symptomatic then you will now need to self-isolate for a minimum of **10 days** from the start of symptoms.

If your child is attending school and your child or anyone in your household have any symptoms of Coronavirus please inform school immediately so that we can take the appropriate action/seek advice in regards to the protection of the staff and students within your child's 'bubble'.

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Please be aware that we will be guided by Public Health England in regards to isolation and how this affects your child's bubble ie if a child or staff member has a confirmed case of Covid-19 then we will be guided on the action and who will need to isolate as a precaution.

Please be mindful that in such events we may need to temporarily close classrooms or areas of the school building which will result in your child isolating at home.

In the event of confirmed cases we will of course be in contact with you individually to discuss the advice given.

Thank you for your continued support.

Yours sincerely

Jodie Cullen

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Dysart School
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