

Advice to all parents regarding confirmed cases of COVID-19 at The Canterbury Academy

Dear parents and carers,

We have been advised by Public Health England today that, over the space of yesterday evening and today, there have been two, confirmed but unrelated, cases of COVID-19 at The Canterbury Academy; one in our year 8 bubble and one in our year 9 bubble.

Again, these two new cases are not linked to any previous ones, although I can completely appreciate that you may continue to find this concerning. The parents of the children who have been in close contact with the individuals who have tested positive for Coronavirus (COVID-19) have, today, received a letter informing them that their child must stay at home and self-isolate for 10 days as a precaution.

With our year 11 and sixth form bubbles remaining closed until the start of term 3, and with staffing still remaining stable, there is **no need** to close either the year 8 or 9 bubble as a result of these individual and separate cases. As I say, the children that have been identified as proximity contacts are now isolating at home as a precaution and the school remains open. If your child is in years 7, 8, 9 or 10, and you have not been contacted separately, they should continue to attend school as normal if they remain well.

All students/parents in year 11 and the sixth form have already been sent a letter reminding them of how they might access their learning remotely for the rest of term. Likewise, remote learning letters have been sent to those students isolating in year 7. The same letter will now be sent to the students who will self-isolate as a result of the case in year 8 and the case in year 9.

For other families that have taken the decision for their child to learn from home for the remainder of this term, Heads of School and Heads of Learning will continue to make sure that they also have access to our remote learning packages.

If your child receives Free School Meals, you will be contacted privately and provided with the appropriate amount of food vouchers to cover the remainder of this week.

This remains an incredibly worrying time for all of us and an ever changing, fast moving situation, which we shall continue to try and manage as best we can. As always, if you do have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact Mrs Banbery, Head of Middle School, on abanbery@canterbury.kent.sch.uk; Mr Brooke, Head of Senior School, on jbrooke@canterbury.kent.sch.uk; or Mrs Winslow, Head of Sixth Form, on lwinslow@canterbury.kent.sch.uk

As I have done over the two previous days of this week, I'd like to wish those young people in year 8 and 9 that we will not see now until January 2021, a safe and very happy Christmas. I'd also like to thank all those parents who continue to send us messages of support, following the difficult decisions that we have had to continue to make. Your ongoing support, and many messages of thanks for staff, have meant a huge amount at this very difficult time.

I am so very sorry that I have to keep writing to you under these circumstances, and, although I cannot guarantee it, I hope that I will now not need to contact you again until the last day of term.

My best regards,



The Canterbury Academy

Jon Watson

Executive Principal

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