

18<sup>th</sup> March 2020

Dear Student, Member of staff, Parent or Guardian

I have been informed today of a student at College who has been added to a waiting list for a test for COVID-19.

If you (or your son or daughter) are timetabled in a class with the student in question I will by now have alerted you by separate email and/or spoken to you in person today.

The result of the test is not yet known and the Health Protection Team will not give advice now unless it is a confirmed case. When they do have a confirmed case their advice is to carry on as normal unless you have COVID-19 symptoms – a new constant cough and/or a fever – in which case the advice is to stay at home for 7 days.

The student in question has not been in College for the last 6 days which means that by tomorrow you (or your son or daughter) would be beyond any period of self-isolation even if it were confirmed as a case of COVID-19.

As a precaution we have deep-cleaned the rooms in which these lessons were taught.

I am aware that hearing that a student from College will be tested for the virus is worrying for you. It also upsets me personally that despite following the government's advice I may have failed to prevent some members of the College coming into contact with the virus. However, I would like to remind everyone that the government's advice is that the impact of this virus on the vast majority of people, and in particular young people, is mild.

It does however reaffirm my view that the impact of the virus has now progressed to the point where we can achieve the best balance between promoting the welfare of our College community and supporting students who are understandably concerned about the disruption to their studies by moving to on-line teaching and support as I outlined earlier today.

I have spoken to the student's mum to reassure myself that they have appropriate support and I am sure you will join with me in extending our best wishes to the young person in question and their family.

Yours sincerely

Ed Senior  
Principal