

Covid 19 update: 17th June 2020

To all parents and carers:

Yesterday morning a member of staff informed me they had been tested for Coronavirus on Sunday 14th June and had received a positive result late Monday evening. The member of staff had no symptoms and wasn't showing any signs of having the virus, but due to family circumstances, had been tested.

I followed the guidance that has been provided to all schools by the local authority, and I quickly received support from Tameside Population Health, who in turn liaised with Public Health England.

People who test positive but do not show symptoms must identify who they have been in close contact with over the previous 48 hours from the time they were tested. In this case this included Friday 12th June. The member of staff was in school for less than an hour before leaving, so we have been able to identify all close 'contacts'. Three staff present on the day but not close contacts have been tested as a precautionary measure and have had a negative test result. Three other people have been identified as being close contacts and therefore in line with public health guidance have been asked to self-isolate away from school for 14 days.

Working in 'bubbles' means that contact with other people in school is reduced, and situations like this can be more easily contained. It is just a shame that we had to postpone the Year 9 transition event that was due to start this week, but we will get there!

Cleaning has taken place and we have also gone beyond the 72 hours which significantly reduces the risk of the virus being active, so we are confident this is a one-off situation.

I wanted you to hear it from me and to know the facts, and to know things have been dealt with appropriately. If you have any concerns, please call me!

