



EL/td/281020

29<sup>th</sup> October 2020

Dear Parents and Carers

I hope you are keeping safe and well during these challenging times. Please find below an update on the following:

- **Case Notification**
- **Update on School Opening after Half Term**
- **Communication**

#### **Case Notification – October 29<sup>th</sup> 2020**

We have been made aware of a further member of our school community who has tested positive for COVID 19.

We know that you may find this concerning but we are continuing to monitor the situation and are working closely with Public Health England. The small number of children who have been in close contact with the individual who has tested positive for coronavirus (COVID-19) have received a letter informing them that their child must stay at home for 14 days.

#### **Changes to School Opening after Half Term**

**School closed to all students Monday November 2<sup>nd</sup> other than GCSE Re-Sits – full deep clean**

**School closed to Year 8 Monday November 2<sup>nd</sup> – Friday November 6<sup>th</sup>, return Monday November 9<sup>th</sup> due to staffing levels in school**

As a result of the cases reported to you this week, I have taken the decision to close the school to all students on Monday November 2<sup>nd</sup> to allow us to complete a full deep clean following the move into our new West Building. **GCSE Re-sits will take place as planned.**

Unfortunately, we have a significant number of staff self-isolating next week and as a consequence, we cannot safely open to all year groups. As a result, Year 8 will be required to study from home for the full week, returning to school on Monday November 9<sup>th</sup>. Work will be set remotely on Class Charts. **Please note, this measure has been taken for safety reasons based on staffing levels and does not reflect any increased risk regarding COVID transmission in Year 8.**

If your child is in year 8 and you require support accessing Class Charts, either due to lack of internet connection or device, please contact Main Reception on 0121 453 1778 and we will endeavour to support.

As always, we will be able to accommodate students requiring priority in-school provision, for example for children of key workers, however resources for this will be limited so please only make use of this if you cannot identify a safe alternative for your child. Please contact Main Reception on 0121 453 1778 by 3.30p.m. on Friday October 30<sup>th</sup> if you will need access to school provision next week.



### **Communication with School**

Please do let us know straight away if your child is self-isolating, either due to displaying COVID symptoms, testing positive for coronavirus, or due to a family member being symptomatic or a confirmed case. The best way to let us know is by ringing Main Reception on 0121 453 1778 and either reporting the matter to our Attendance Officer, our School Nurse or to one of our Reception Team.

As ever, it is essential that we are able to contact you both by phone and via e-mail. If you have not yet signed up to ParentMail or Class Charts, please contact us as a matter of urgency so that you receive all notifications from school. If your contact details have changed, please contact Main Reception or email us on [enquiries@colmers.school](mailto:enquiries@colmers.school) to alert us so we can keep our records up to date.

### **How to help stop COVID-19 spreading**

If your child is displaying any of the following symptoms, please do not send them into school and please arrange for a COVID Test at the earliest opportunity. 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)

### **Further Information**

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

I hope that despite these difficult circumstances, you have been able to enjoy the Half Term break. If you have any queries or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact school, either via [enquiries@colmers.school](mailto:enquiries@colmers.school) for general queries or via [eleaman@colmers.school](mailto:eleaman@colmers.school) if there is something you wish to raise with me directly.

Yours sincerely

Headteacher