



# Atlantic Academy

Part of the Launceston College Multi Academy Trust

19 November 2020

Dear Parents and Carers

We have been advised today by Public Health England that there has been a further but unrelated confirmed case of COVID-19 within the school community. We are rightly concerned about the number of cases which have developed this week, particularly where the person has not developed the identified Covid-19 symptoms. On each occasion, we discuss the details with the DfE Coronavirus advice line and Public Health England. Additionally we have now had cases in our setting reviewed by the Local Authority and the Local health protection team. We have been informed that whilst levels locally have increased, they are still below the national average rate of cases. The Devon Health Protection team are of the opinion that the transmission amongst young people is greater outside of the school environment, where mitigating steps are being taken.

In order to support the national effort to combat the Coronavirus, we are hoping to join the Covid Symptom Study for school communities. This programme asks parents to log their child's health and any covid tests through an online survey on a daily basis, facilitating critical national scientific research into the impact of Covid-19 on children and young people. Participation would also provide daily insights to the school informing rapid decision making to support pupil safety, as well as key metrics being available to parents participating in the programme. This would, of course, be a voluntary programme. More information about the programme can be found at [www.covid.joinzoe.com/schoolnetwork](http://www.covid.joinzoe.com/schoolnetwork), parents are welcome to view the information, particularly around data security, whilst we determine if we are able to participate. A greater understanding of this virus will help all members of society move forward, with the hope of returning to normal operations soon.

Unless your child has been asked to self isolate, the school remains open and your child should continue to attend if they remain well.

## **What to do if your child develops symptoms of COVID 19**

If your child develops symptoms of COVID-19, **you should organise for your child to be tested** via the [NHS online portal](#) or by calling 119. Your household should isolate until you receive the test results giving the all clear. If you are unable to book a local slot then you can email [d-ccg.devon.urgenttesting@nhs.net](mailto:d-ccg.devon.urgenttesting@nhs.net) making clear that the test is for a child attending a Devon School, and you will be supported to access local testing. The symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19) are a recent onset of:

- A continuous cough and/or
- A high temperature and/or
- A loss of, or change in, normal sense of taste or smell (anosmia)

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

There are things you can do to help reduce the risk of you and anyone you live with getting ill with COVID-19

*Do*

- wash your hands with soap and water often – do this for at least 20 seconds
- use hand sanitiser gel if soap and water are not available
- wear a face covering when you cannot maintain a 2m social distance
- wash your hands as soon as you get home
- cover your mouth and nose with a tissue or your sleeve (not your hands) when you cough or sneeze
- put used tissues in the bin immediately and wash your hands afterwards

### **Further Information**

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

We continue to ask you to remain calm and vigilant during this period, ensuring that all of the health protection measures listed above are followed. We are committed to maintaining education for students who are asked to self-isolate, and will facilitate this through the google classroom. Please contact your child's coach or the school office if you have any concerns.

If there is any further information or update, I will share this with parents and carers without delay.

Best wishes



Mrs Lynsey Slater  
Principal

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