



**Horizons Specialist Academy Trust**  
*Providing infinite opportunities*

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**Rebecca Whelan**

Principal

Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> September 2020

Dear parent and carers,

### **Confirmed COVID-19 Case in a bubble associated with Abbey Hill Academy**

On Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> September we were informed that a student from our specialist base at North Shore Academy had tested positive for Coronavirus (COVID-19). Prior to this, we were aware that although the student was not displaying any symptoms, their family members had tested positive and therefore the student had already begun a 14 day period of self-isolation.

The students and staff in the specialist base 'bubble' had also made the decision to remain at home whilst waiting for the result of the student's test, and are now completing the 14 day self-isolation period, from their last contact with the student, in line with Public Health England and Government guidance.

No one from this bubble has had any contact with staff or students at the Abbey Hill site, and there was also no contact with anyone from North Shore Academy, as the group is based in a separate annex and is self-contained. It is with thanks to the staff team and the cooperation of the parents and carers that this matter was dealt with effectively, thus minimising any risk to others.

### **How does COVID-19 spread?**

COVID-19 spreads mainly from having close contact with someone who has a COVID-19 infection. The virus is thought to spread by droplets from person to person when they speak, cough, or sneeze. Droplets travel less than 2 metres. When droplets from another person get in your mouth or nose you can inhale into your lungs. This virus can be spread by people without symptoms.

### **How can parents and carers help prevent COVID-19 from spreading?**

- If your child displays any symptoms, keep them at home and arrange for a test.
- Make sure members of your household wash their hands often using soap and water for 20 seconds.
- Make sure every member of your household covers their coughs and sneezes with a tissue or their elbow, and then washes their hands afterwards.
- Wear a mask in public when you cannot stay 2 metres apart from other people.



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**We are working with Public Health England and the Government to keep our community safe.**

- We continue to follow the Government's guidance for Special Schools
- We cleaned and disinfected the base in line with Public Health England's guidance.
- Staff and students will not return to work until they have completed the isolation period.

Thank you for understanding that, due to GDPR, we are not able to and would not wish to release the names of the individuals with COVID-19. We will continue to communicate changes and updates with you. With your continued participation and support, we believe we can continue to create a safe and fun experience for your children.

If you have any questions, please feel free get in touch.

Yours sincerely,



Rebecca Whelan