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BISHOPSHALT SCHOOL
"Above all else a place for learning"

23rd September 2020

Ref: MCG/ber/C19

Dear Parents & Carers

Re: Coronavirus / COVID-19 Positive Case

Following on from Mr McGillicuddy's letter of 22nd September, I am writing to inform you that we have unfortunately now been advised of our **first 6th Form** reported positive case of COVID-19 within our school community. The parents' of the student alerted us today, and we would like to reassure you that the student concerned has not been in school since **Tuesday 15th September**.

In accordance with Public Health England and DfE procedures, we have report this to them and have followed the guidance that they have provided. They have advised us to continue to operate the school as we are.

We would like to reassure you that the student has been isolating since symptoms commenced ten days ago and has not been in school since. The student was not infectious whilst in school and will not be back until they have finished their isolation period and have had two consecutive days without a temperature in excess of 37.8.

In accordance with our internal procedures for dealing with a positive COVID-19 case, we are **'tracking and tracing'** all students that potentially could have been in contact with the student concerned. When we identify these students, we will contact those families directly to ask that they monitor their children for any of the key symptoms;

- a high temperature in excess of 37.8.
- a new, continuous cough - this means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 (if you usually have a cough – it may be worse than usual.)
- a loss of, or change to, your sense of smell or taste – this means you have noticed that you cannot smell or taste anything, or taste or smell things differently

If you are unsure or concerned please ring 111 or visit <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/symptoms/> Please be reassured that for most people, coronavirus (COVID-19) will be a mild illness.

We appreciate that you will be worried by this information; unfortunately it is highly likely that this will not be the last case we have. Please be reassured that for most people, coronavirus (COVID-19) will be a mild illness.

Please can we ask that you remind your children of the importance to continue to behave safely, sanitise their hands regularly, maintain a social distance both in and out of school and return straight home at the end of school.

The school will continue to monitor the situation and will remain open following all guidance provided by Public Health, England and the DfE.

Yours sincerely,

N Cockcroft (Mr)
Deputy Head – Director of 6th Form



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Headteacher: Mr L McGillicuddy