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16th November 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

I write to advise you that we have been made aware of a confirmed case of COVID-19 within the school.

After consultation with the NHS Grampian Health Protection Team (HPT), we have identified that your child **has not** been in close contact with the case at a time when they were likely infectious. This has been determined by working closely with the HPT and considering factors such as the movement of pupils and staff through the school and on school transport, relevant seating plans and classroom layouts, as well as speaking to the case.

There is no evidence of transmission of COVID-19 within the school. The HPT have advised that all other pupils can continue to attend school as normal unless they develop COVID-19 symptoms or are identified as a close contact outside the school setting by NHS Test and Protect.

What we have done

Since schools returned in August, we have had good control measures in place in case something like this should happen. In line with government guidance, we have put in place enhanced hygiene and cleaning measures, ways for contact between different groups to be minimised, appropriate emergency procedures, amongst various other measures.

Since being notified of this case, we have been working alongside the HPT. All those identified as close contacts will be required to self-isolate for the time indicated to them by Test and Protect.

The strength of the control measures has enabled the HPT to advise that the school remain open.

General advice on COVID-19

I would like to take this opportunity to remind you of the general advice currently in place for everyone. The most common symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19) are recent onset of:

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

If your child develops symptoms of COVID-19, NHS 111 can provide assessment over the phone and information about testing. Further information on testing can be found on NHS Inform.   They should begin 10 days of self-isolation whilst waiting for their test result. All other household members who remain well must stay at home and begin 14 days of household isolation whilst waiting for the test result.

How to stop COVID-19 spreading

There are things that we can all be doing to help reduce the risk of getting ill with COVID-19. These include:

- washing your hands with soap and water often – do this for at least 20 seconds
- using hand sanitiser gel if soap and water are not available
- washing your hands as soon as you get home
- covering your mouth and nose with a tissue or your sleeve (not your hands) when you cough or sneeze
- putting used tissues in the bin immediately and wash your hands afterwards

Further information

Further information is available at:

https://www.nhsinform.scot/illnesses-and-conditions/infections-and-poisoning/coronavirus-covid-19

https://www.gov.scot/coronavirus-covid-19/

Kind regards

Phil Gaiter
Rector