



Tudor Grange Academy
Dingle Lane
Solihull
West Midlands
B91 3PD

4th November 2021

Dear Parents / Carers

I hope that you all had an enjoyable half term break.

I am writing with an update on the COVID-19 situation at TGAS. During the break and over the course of this week, we have been notified of an increasing number of COVID-19 cases at the Academy.

There are currently 40 confirmed cases of COVID-19 and this is a significant increase from our numbers prior to the break. The vast majority of these cases were confirmed during the half term break (with parents / carers notifying us during the break or in the early part of this week). Four individuals returned to school following the break and have since gone on to test positive for COVID-19. A breakdown of the cases is below:

Year group	Number of current cases
7	6
8	15
9	9
10	4
11	1
Sixth Form	3
Staff	2
TOTAL CASES	40

We are continuing to monitor the situation and are working closely with public health advisers. This letter is to inform you of the current situation and provide advice on how to support your child. Please be reassured that for most people, coronavirus (COVID-19) will be a mild illness.

Public Health advisors have not recommended any further action at this time. However, we have identified that there was potential transmission during a Y8 PE lesson on Friday 22nd October. **As a precautionary measure, we are now recommending that students wear face coverings when in the PE changing rooms.**

In addition to the measures already being taken (increased ventilation, additional cleaning, optional face coverings), there are a number of further outbreak management actions that may be taken to reduce the spread of COVID-19 in schools/settings. We will continue to work with the public health advisors and inform you of these possible measures if needed. We are extremely mindful of the negative impact of missing education has on children and young people, therefore, restricting attendance at school will only be considered as an absolute last resort.

The school remains open and providing your child remains well they can continue to attend school as normal.





What to do if your child develops symptoms of COVID 19

If your child develops symptoms of COVID-19 (new, continuous cough, high temperature, loss/change in taste/smell), they should remain at home for at least 10 days from the date when their symptoms appeared. Anyone with symptoms will be eligible for testing and this can be arranged via <https://www.nhs.uk/ask-for-a-coronavirus-test> or by calling 119.

If the person with symptoms receives a positive test result, all household members who are fully vaccinated (had their second vaccine more than 14 days ago) or are aged below 18 years 6 months, do not need to isolate but should access a free PCR test. Adults who are not fully vaccinated need to isolate from 10 days from the case's first symptoms (or test date if they had no symptoms). Full guidance can be found at <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-stay-at-home-guidance/stay-at-home-guidance-for-households-with-possible-coronavirus-covid-19-infection>

Contact tracing

Schools/settings are no longer required to trace close contacts of cases and, if your child tests positive for COVID-19, the local contact tracing team will be in touch to identify close contacts. Contact tracers will ask about symptoms, test date and will help you to identify anyone they have been in close contact with during their infectious period. We appreciate you may not be able to identify all of those who have been close contact with your child, however, we will work with you to identify as many as possible.

If your child is identified as a close contact, they will be contacted and advised to access a free PCR test (they do not need to isolate whilst waiting for the result).

How you can help

Vaccination is the single, most effective step we can take to protect ourselves and other from the virus and we would urge everyone aged 12 and above to 'grab a jab'. This is crucially important for lowering the infection rate in schools/settings and the wider community and is the best way you can protect yourself and your family from COVID-19.

Symptoms - It is also extremely important that all parents/carers are vigilant in spotting symptoms in their child(ren) and do not send them to their school/setting if they have COVID-19 symptoms. During this period when there are COVID-19 cases in schools, if you are in any doubt about your child's symptoms, please take them for a PCR test.

LFD Testing - Asymptomatic COVID-19 testing is extremely important in reducing the risk of the virus spreading and we encourage you to support your child in taking their tests at least twice per week and reporting their results.

The 90-day window after a positive test

If someone has tested positive with a PCR test, they should not be tested using either PCR or rapid lateral flow tests for 90 days, unless they develop new symptoms during this time – in which case they should be retested immediately using PCR.

This 90-day period is from the initial onset of symptoms or, if asymptomatic when tested, their positive test result. <https://www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test>





Remote Learning

When students are absent for COVID related reasons and remain well enough to work, remote learning will be available. Work will be provided via Show My Homework or access to TEAMS lessons. Students can also access the remote learning area of our website (accessed [here](#)) or the Trust Moodle (accessed [here](#)).

Thank you for your patience and please do contact us if your child experiences any difficulties with remote learning.

Finally, can I take this opportunity to remind you of the process of informing us of a positive test result. Please email positivetest@solihull.tgacademy.org.uk. It would be useful if your email could include the following information:

Child's name

Child's year group and tutor group (e.g. Yr 9, V1)

Date symptoms started

Symptoms shown

Date of test

Type of test (PCR/ LFD)

Date of result

Last date student was in school

First date student is out of isolation (even if this is a non-school day)

This information will help us to keep accurate records and will avoid multiple contacts being made with you.

Thank you for your support.

Yours sincerely

Mrs C Smith
Principal

