

The Seagull



Issue 645 Friday 18th September 2020

Enquiries: 020 8270 6222
Absence Line: 020 8724 1531

Website: www.jorichardson.org.uk
Email: headteacher@jorichardson.org.uk
Twitter: @JRCS_School 



HEADTEACHER'S NEWS

This week

As you will now be aware, we experienced our first case of a JRCS student testing positive for Covid-19 last weekend. The student in question is in Year 9 and over the weekend we worked closely with Public Health England, The London Coronavirus Response Cell and Matthew Cole, the Borough's Director of Public Health (please see his important letter attached) to put into place a plan that ensured all our students and staff were safe within the school. On Monday 14th the whole of the Year 9 year group were asked to remain at home whilst we carried out a full investigation as well as a deep clean in the areas where they had been taught.

This course of action has now become standard practice across the borough as the number of cases in our neighbouring schools continues to increase. As a result, form classes 9A and 9B are now self-isolating for the statutory period of 14 days. Also, six members of JRCS staff are following the same procedure.

Throughout this process we have kept in close contact with all the students and staff involved and also ensured that you, our parents, were fully aware of the challenges the school is facing. Thank you for your support during this difficult time and I will obviously make sure I keep you fully informed of any confirmed cases in the future.

Finally, please make sure that you do not send your son or daughter to school should they be exhibiting COVID-19 symptoms. They should be kept at home and you should arrange for them to be tested as soon as possible. Please also make sure that you keep the school's Welfare team fully informed of both their absence and also of any of their test outcomes.

Many thanks and stay safe.

Mr Smith
Headteacher



GENERAL NEWS

Year 12 Information Evening

We would like to welcome Year 12 parents to an information evening on Tuesday 22nd September from 5:30pm-6:30pm. This is an opportunity to understand the ethos, routines and procedures of our Sixth Form and meet your son/daughter's form tutor. We will also be there to answer any questions you have.

We look forward to seeing you.

Mrs Evans
Director of Sixth Form

LOC Incentive – Returning Library Books

A reminder to all students who have a school library book, the books need to be returned now.

Students who return their library book(s) will be awarded an LOC if the library book is returned before or by 29th September.

The library is currently closed to students, so a box will be outside the library doors for students to put the books being returned.

The LOC to be awarded from the ACHIEVE list will be either the I or V. If a student has a preference, they should leave a note in the library book being returned stating which they prefer.

If a library book cannot be returned for any reason, the £5 library fine can be paid via ParentPay to go towards the cost of a replacement book.

Thank you to those students who have now returned their library books. Those students will be receiving their LOC very shortly.

Any queries, email
Josland@jorichardson.org.uk

Ms Osland
School Librarian

16th September 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

I am writing to you as your local Director of Public Health to let you know what will happen if someone at your child's school tests positive to Covid-19 and what you and your household would be required to do.

Since the return to school we have seen a very small number of schools affected by positive cases of Covid-19. This has meant in some instances, a class or a year group bubble being sent home and asked to self-isolate for 14 days. Before re-opening, we worked with schools to ensure they had measures in place so they could manage any cases in the best possible way, to reduce disruption for the whole school. These measures are now coming into play.

If someone at your child's school tests positive for Covid-19, the local authority and Public Health England will work with your child's school to risk assess who else should be advised to self-isolate. Children and adults should only get tested if they have symptoms. School lessons for the rest of the pupils will carry on as normal.

We know that as a parent you will want peace of mind if your child's class or bubble has been sent home, but please only book a test if your child has symptoms. At the moment, we have been told there is a shortage of laboratory capacity, which means Covid-19 tests need to be prioritised for people with symptoms. If you book a test without symptoms, you could be taking a slot from someone who could genuinely have the virus.

If your child does have symptoms, has a test and it shows as positive, they will be required to self-isolate and you will be contacted by the NHS test and trace system team to find out who else they have been in recent contact with. If a pupil (including your child) or staff member has been in contact with a person who has Covid-19, they will need to self-isolate for 14 days to help prevent the virus spreading further. If your child is sent home, they will continue with their studies online - if they are able to do so.

If your child or anyone in your household has symptoms of Covid-19 (a temperature, a new continuous cough or loss of/change to taste or smell), do not send your child to school. Contact the school and order a test as soon as possible. To order a test, please call NHS 119 or book online at <https://www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test>.

If a child or member of staff develops symptoms at school, they will be sent home with advice about what to do.

Anyone who has symptoms or has tested positive will need to self-isolate for at least 10 days, and the rest of the household for 14 days, in line with the latest stay at home guidance.

If the test results are negative, your household can usually leave self-isolation and your child can return to school, but only if they're no longer unwell and no one in your household has been traced as being in contact with someone who has tested positive.

Yours faithfully,

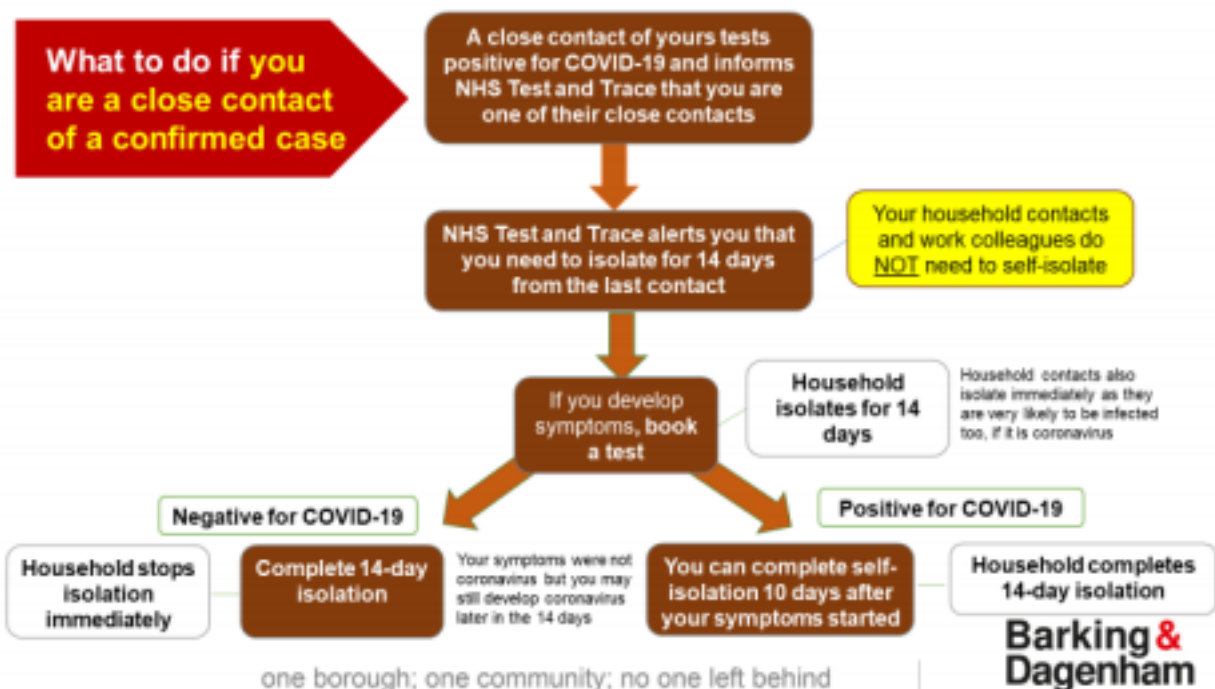
A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Matthew Cole', is written over a light blue rectangular background.

Matthew Cole
Director of Public Health

What to do if you have symptoms



What to do if you are a close contact of a confirmed case



FAQs – General advice to the public

How will I know if I need to self-isolate?

When a person who has symptoms receives a positive test result for Covid-19, the NHS test and trace service will ask them to share information about their close contacts just before and after they developed symptoms.

Any non-household contacts who need to self-isolate will be contacted by the NHS test and trace service. They will receive a formal notification (either a phone call, letter, email or text message) setting out what to do.

The period of self-isolation will be for 14 days from the point of most recent contact with the person who has tested positive for coronavirus

What does it mean to self-isolate?

- Do not leave your home for any reason – if you need food or medicine, order it online or by phone, or ask friends and family to drop it off at your home
- Unless it is possible for you to work from home, do not attend work. You will need to contact your employer to advise them that you have been told to self-isolate. Your employer may ask to see the formal notification.
- Do not have visitors in your home, including friends and family – except for essential care
- Try to avoid contact with anyone you live with as much as possible
- People you live with do not need to self-isolate unless a person in that household has had symptoms but they must take extra care to follow the guidance on social distancing and handwashing and avoid contact with you at home.

It's really important to do this even if you don't feel unwell because, if you have been infected, you could become infectious to others at any point up to 14 days after contact with a case.

A person I have had close contact with in the last 2 days has told me they have coronavirus symptoms and they are being tested. What should I do?

You do not need to self-isolate while the person with symptoms is awaiting their test result. But you should;

- take extra care in practicing social distancing and good hygiene, like washing your hands regularly.
- remain vigilant for your own symptoms
- avoid individuals who are at high-risk of contracting COVID-19, for example, because they have pre-existing medical conditions, such as respiratory issues, or are over age 70.
- be aware that you may receive a notification from the NHS test and trace service advising you need to self-isolate.

What will happen if someone I don't know personally but come into contact with, such as on public transport, tests positive for Covid-19?

- Everyone should continue to follow the social distancing guidelines by remaining 2m apart (or 1 m plus) from others and wearing a face covering on public transport , shops , banks , building societies and post offices or in other settings where social distancing is not possible. From 8th August, the list will be extended to a greater number of public indoor settings, such as museums, galleries, cinemas and public libraries. Full list available [here](#)
- The NHS Covid-19 app, which is expected to be rolled out shortly, will enable the test and trace service to anonymously alert app users who have come into close contact with other app users who test positive for Covid-19.

What does NHS Test & Trace do with my data and information?

When someone is contacted by the NHS test and trace service and told they have been in contact with someone with coronavirus, they will not be told who that person was, to protect anonymity.

The information they provide will be handled in strict confidence and will only be kept and used in line with data protection laws. It will help with contacting people who are at risk of having been exposed to coronavirus and explain what they must do to help prevent the further spread of the virus.

WORD OF THE WEEK
21-25 September 2020

JRCS 200 word challenge



Read It

Accolade

Define It

1. An award or privilege granted as a special honour, worthy of merit. An expression of praise.

Digging Deeper:



You may have seen imagery of a person receiving a knighthood: a ceremony where the person knighted is tapped on the shoulder with the flat side of the sword or embraced around the neck. A knight being honoured was the earliest use of accolade in the Middle Ages when the noun accolade was used to describe the ceremony. Now, accolade is used to describe the highest form of praise or award. We must remember the etymology has roots in nobility, so our word of the week is highly complimentary!

Draw It

On the whiteboard/paper/ mini whiteboards

Deconstruct It

The word appears in the early 1600s from French verb *accoler* literally meaning 'embrace around the neck' when bestowing a knighthood. From Latin *ad-* meaning 'at' and *'collum'* meaning neck

Link It

Report back next week: how did you find ways to link this word to your learning in different subjects?

Use It

1. Her approval was the highest accolade he could receive.
2. She received four Grammy awards, the highest accolade in the music business.