

Principal: Emma Robins



18 November 2020

Dear parent/carer

### **Coronavirus Update**

I would like to express my thanks for your support, patience and understanding at this time. As you know, we have had positive cases of coronavirus amongst our school community. Each case is dealt with individually working closely with key external agencies. We have to be guided by the experts at every stage and they work with us to determine what steps to take. Our priority at all times is to ensure the health, safety and well-being of our school community.

When we are notified of a positive case of coronavirus, we report it immediately to the Department for Education who, in turn, refer it to Public Health England. We also speak to Hope Learning Trust and North Yorkshire Local Authority. This ensures that all factors are taken into consideration, including the local and national situation. We are then guided as to how to respond to the situation. We have to identify close contacts to the reported case who then need to self-isolate for 14 days. We then have to send out standard letters to the parents/carers of all students who are self-isolating explaining what they need to do. We also send you a letter to inform you of a positive case in school. Information about self-isolating can be found here: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-stay-at-home-guidance/stay-at-home-guidance-for-households-with-possible-coronavirus-covid-19-infection>

If a student displays symptoms whilst they are at school we will contact you, and ask that, you collect them and take them for a coronavirus test. Full information about getting a test in Scarborough can be found here: <https://www.northyorks.gov.uk/book-coronavirus-covid-19-test>. There is a testing centre in the William Street Car Park. The symptoms of coronavirus are a high temperature, a new, continuous cough and a loss or change to sense of smell or taste. If any one of these symptoms is evident, we will contact you. If your child receives a negative test result, they can return to school.

If your child receives a positive test result, please contact us immediately. Please phone the school or email [hello@gra.hit.academy](mailto:hello@gra.hit.academy). This email address is checked outside of school hours. It is crucial that we know about a positive test result so that we can inform the relevant authorities. We will contact you to discuss the details. If someone in your household tests positive please contact us, as your child will need to self-isolate along with the rest of the household for 14 days. If your child is absent for reasons linked to coronavirus, it will not count as an absence from school but it is very important that you let us know as soon as possible.

Graham School  
Woodlands Drive, Scarborough  
North Yorkshire YO12 6QW  
Tel: (01723) 366451 Fax: (01723) 380985  
Email: [hello@gra.hit.academy](mailto:hello@gra.hit.academy)  
Website: [www.grahamschool.org](http://www.grahamschool.org)



In school, we continue to follow our rigorous risk assessment, which is available on our website: <https://grahamschool.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/11/Risk-Assessment-Wider-Opening-of-School-16.11.2020.pdf>. There is also information on our website to support those students who are self-isolating to work from home. We ask that students log in to Google Classroom each day and complete the work that is set, or log in to live lessons. If your child is self-isolating and you have any questions about working from home please contact the relevant Head of Year.

I fully appreciate that this is a worrying time for all of us. Please rest assured that we are doing everything to ensure we keep our community safe. I have been very pleased with the way our students have responded to all of our requests to wear face coverings, stay in their bubbles and to follow the 'Hands, Face, Space' guidance. They have been a credit to you and to themselves.

We will continue to follow all guidance to keep everyone safe. I would like to thank you again for your continued support, patience and understanding. I look forward to a time when we are able to return to our 'normality'. I hope that this will be soon. In the meantime, please do not hesitate to contact us should you have any questions and please stay safe.

Yours faithfully



Emma Robins  
Principal