

Dudley Academies Trust

Executive offices, Dudley College of Technology
Priory Villa, 3 Ednam Road, Dudley, West
Midlands, DY1 1HL
Chair of Board of Trustees: Lowell Williams
Chief Executive: Jo Higgins



16/12/20

Dear Parents/Carers

Re: Reporting positive Coronavirus (COVID-19) test results

Although our academies are closed over the Christmas period, Public Health England (PHE) has agreed a 6-day window, after the final day of teaching, in which academies are asked to remain contactable so they can assist with contact tracing where necessary.

If your child tests positive for coronavirus (COVID-19) **between Friday 18th December and Wednesday 23rd December 2020**, you should notify the academy by email **as soon as possible**. The academy will then complete the relevant contact tracing process with Public Health England and notify any other children or staff who have been close contacts and need to self-isolate. In order to notify the school/academy, please send an email to:

- Blowers Green Primary, info@blowers.dudley.sch.uk
- Beacon Hill Academy, helpline@beaconhillacademy.org.uk
- Pegasus Academy, office@pegasusacademy.org.uk
- St James Academy, safeguarding-help@stjamesacademy.org.uk
- The Link Academy, info@thelinkacademy.org.uk

Please be aware that the academy office will not be staffed during the holidays therefore, please **do not** call the school/academy as the lines will be closed and messages will not be received. Please include the following information in the body of your email:

- Name of child
- Child's class
- Date of first symptoms
- Date of test taken
- Date of positive test outcome
- Date and time last in school/academy
- Contact number in case further information is requested by Public Health England

Important: The above email addresses are only active between Friday 18th December and Wednesday 23rd December. **After 23rd December, the email will be inactive** and you should follow contact tracing instruction provided by [NHS Test and Trace](#).

Please remember that as soon as your child or any member of your household develops COVID-19 symptoms, they must start self-isolating immediately and book a test.



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The main symptoms of COVID-19 are:

- A high temperature.
- A new, continuous cough – this means coughing a lot, for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours.
- A loss or change to sense of smell or taste.

If you are not sure whether symptoms suggest that they have coronavirus or just an everyday cough or cold, you can consult the NHS online symptom checker [here](#).

Please do not send children back to nursery or school if any of the following apply:

- They have symptoms of COVID-19.
- They, any members of your household, or any close contacts (including extended family or friends they have seen and bubbles at half-term activities and sports clubs) have tested positive for COVID-19.
- They haven't completed the full 10-day isolation period requested.

If you or your family are affected by COVID-19 and need support locally with things like shopping, getting medication or financial advice, visit: www.dudley.gov.uk/council-community/emergencies/coronavirus-advice/.

Learners attending our secondary academies will return on Monday 4th January and pupils attending Blowers Green Primary, will return to school on Tuesday 5th January. Learners and pupils should not return if they are displaying symptoms or are in isolation for any other COVID-19 reason.

As per my letter dated 11/12/20, to say that this term has not been easy is an understatement. Nevertheless, our learners have been resilient and definitely demonstrated our value of 'Respecting each other and our world'. All staff have stepped up to support each other and to provide the best education possible for our learners in these challenging circumstances.

Your continued support is greatly appreciated, and I would like to wish you and your families a very happy, restful and safe break.

Yours sincerely

Jo Higgins
Chief Executive



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