



Stevenage Campus  
Monkswood Way, Stevenage  
Hertfordshire, SG1 1LA

enquiries@nhc.ac.uk

**01462 424242**

www.nhc.ac.uk

## Private and Confidential

15<sup>th</sup> September 2020

Dear Parent / Guardian,

We are writing to let you know that a member of staff at our Stevenage campus, within our Childcare and Health and Social Care team, tested positive for COVID-19 today.

This is the only curriculum area affected and we have taken swift and decisive action to protect staff and students from that department.

As a precautionary measure, childcare and healthcare students are now studying remotely from home. We have contacted those who have been in close contact with the individual and they are now self-isolating in line with NHS guidelines. We are in touch with Public Health England and are awaiting further advice from them on any additional action needed.

Students from other curriculum areas should not worry, do not need to self-isolate and should continue attending college as per their timetables. We teach in departmental bubbles so that curriculum areas do not cross, we have introduced staggered start and finish times, and are not allowing students from different bubbles to congregate in communal areas.

These measures help minimise the risk of the infection spreading and mean that other curriculum areas can continue as normal.

### *What to do if your child develops symptoms of COVID-19*

Please be reassured that for most people, coronavirus (COVID-19) will be a mild illness.

Below is a reminder of the action you should take if your son or daughter develops symptoms:

- They must not come to College and 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-coronavirustest> or by calling NHS 119.
- All other household members who remain well must stay at home and not leave the house for 14 days. <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-stay-at-home->

[guidance/stay-at-homeguidance-for-households-with-possible-coronavirus-covid-19-infection](#). The 14-day period starts from the day when the first person in the house became ill.

- Household members should not go to work, school or public areas and exercise should be taken within the home. Household members staying at home for 14 days will greatly reduce the overall amount of infection the household could pass on to others in the community.
- If you are able, move any vulnerable individuals (such as the elderly and those with underlying health conditions) out of your home, to stay with friends or family for the duration of the home isolation period.

### *Symptoms*

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)

### *How to stop COVID-19 spreading*

There are things you can do to help reduce the risk of you and anyone you live with getting ill with COVID-19

Do

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

### *Further information*

Further information is available at <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/>

We would like to thank all our students for their fantastic efforts in the first week of the new term. Attendance was excellent, students have got used to the new arrangements quickly and were diligent with their hand hygiene and social distancing.

This is the best way to protect all our staff and students and enable us to continue campus learning so please do keep reminding your child of the importance of this.

We will of course let you know if there are any further developments.

Yours sincerely,



Kit Davies  
Principal