

Thursday 11th February 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

Re: Reporting Positive Coronavirus (Covid-19) Cases Over February Half-Term

We have been asked by the Department for Education (DFE) to support with track and trace information during the February half-term. If your child tests positive for Coronavirus (COVID-19) at any point during the break, and has been attending school under the critical worker or vulnerable children provision, please notify the school as soon as possible. This is so we can complete the relevant tracking and tracing process with public health, if required, and notify any other children or staff who have been close contacts and who need to self-isolate. **You only need to contact us if your child has a positive test result, not because they have symptoms, are going for a test or have a negative result.**

During the holidays, you should contact: admin@roebuck.herts.sch.uk. This email address will be monitored by a member of the senior leadership team from **Saturday 13th February**. Emails should be sent each day by 12 noon. Emails received after this time, will not be read until the next day. Please do not call the normal absence line or leave a voice message on the answer machine as they will not be monitored during the holiday period. **Remember, as soon as your child or any member of your household develops symptoms, they must start self-isolating immediately and book a test regardless of it being half-term.**

Main symptoms of coronavirus 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 – this means they cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal.

If you're not certain whether symptoms indicate that your child has COVID-19, or an everyday cough or cold, you can consult this online NHS symptom checker here: <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/symptoms/>

Please do not send children back to school on **February 22nd** if any of the following apply:

- they have symptoms of Coronavirus (COVID-19);
- any members of your household, or any close contacts have tested positive for COVID-19;
- they haven't completed the full 10-day isolation period requested.

Self-isolating is one of the most important things we can all do to help stop the spread of the virus and protect our loved ones and the vulnerable. You can read Hertfordshire's helpful self-isolating guide at: www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/selfisolatingguide

The Roebuck Academy, St Margarets, Stevenage, Hertfordshire, SG2 8RG

Headteacher: Ms Lynsey Young | Tel: 01438 311937 | admin@roebuck.herts.sch.uk | www.roebuck.herts.sch.uk



First Day of Term

We look forward to welcoming children back on **Monday 22nd February 2021**. Children will be expected to arrive on site for a start time of **8:45am**.

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

Thank you for your continued support and vigilance for testing when there are symptoms displayed in children, your support has helped protect our bubbles across the school and will hopefully help us navigate our way safely through the half-term holiday period.

Keep Shining

Ms Lynsey Young

Roebuck Academy Headteacher