

Date: 30.11.20

Re: COVID19 Update - Year 9 Home Learning for 1 Week - Tuesday 1st December until Tuesday 8th December inclusive with return to the academy on Wednesday 9th December

Dear Parent / Carer,

Over the last week we have experienced a range of challenges from what would appear to be a spike in COVID19 positive cases across Thurrock schools, which has had a direct impact on Ormiston Park Academy. After consulting with Public Health last week, our Year 11s have been learning from home after we received a number of COVID19 positive results in that particular Year Group over that weekend. This weekend we have received a similar number of COVID19 positive results, this time with our Year 9s. With the associated 'contacts' for these individual, this has resulted in groups of Year 9 students having to self isolate. After further consultation with Public Health today, we have taken the decision to reduce the risk of further transmission within our academy and to households, with Year 9s required to learn from home for 1 week (Tuesday 1st December until Tuesday 8th December inclusive with return to the academy on Wednesday 9th December).

Year 9's Home Learning

Please use Oak National Academy. Select either Schedule (and then Year Group) or Subjects (and then the Key Stage followed by the topic) <https://classroom.thenational.academy/>

Year 11s return to the academy on Wednesday 2nd December and our Year 7, Year 8 and Year 10 continue as normal.

In addition to our enhanced COVID19 cleaning measures in place, we will conduct a deep clean of the Year 9 and Year 8 classroom Bubble areas this evening. In light of the spike in cases across Thurrock, we are now further encouraging all students that if they feel comfortable to wear face coverings in classrooms lessons, that they should do this to further reduce transmission. Please could you remind your child to regularly sanitize their hands throughout the day using the 74 hand sanitizers mounted on walls across the academy.

If your child has COVID19 symptoms, we request that you keep them at home, book and take a test immediately and pass this information on to the academy. Several recent confirmed positive results have highlighted that parents have correctly kept their child at home because they had symptoms but delayed in getting a test, which has resulted in a delay in the academy being able to track their individual contacts for them to self isolate.

The main symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19) are:

- a high temperature – this means you feel hot to touch on your chest or back (you do not need to measure your temperature)
- a new, continuous cough – this means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours (if you usually have a cough, it may be worse than usual)
- a loss or change to your sense of smell or taste – this means you've noticed you cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal

I would like to take this opportunity to reassure you that, as always, the safety and wellbeing of our students and staff is our number one priority and we will continue to adhere to all Government and local guidance to safeguard our academy community. We thank you for your continued support and diligence during this pandemic.

If you have any questions or queries that you would like to discuss further, please do not hesitate to contact the academy Reception team or your child's Head of Year, who are always here to help and support.

Kind regards

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Mark Roessler', written in a cursive style.

Mark Roessler
Principal