



# SKEGNESS ACADEMY

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@SkegnessAcad

4 December 2020

Dear Parents and Carers

I hope this finds you well and you are staying safe and healthy during this unprecedented time.

As you will know from our recent letters, we are continuing to work closely with Public Health England to help manage both the Academy's and the wider response to Covid-19, as cases rise across the community.

In line with the latest government and Public Health England advice, any affected students and staff, identified through our contact tracing process, as well as the NHS Track and Trace notification system, are now self-isolating as a precautionary measure.

Due to the number of staff who are still self-isolating, as a precautionary measure and in line with government guidelines, **we have taken the difficult decision to extend home learning for year 9 for a further week. Students will therefore return to school on Monday 14 December 2020. Your child's form tutor will make two phone calls to you during the course of next week.**

We appreciate this may be a difficult time. However, the health, safety and wellbeing of our students, parents, staff and the wider school community must remain our top priority.

Work will continue to be provided on Teams and engagement will be monitored. For students who do not have access to devices, work packs were sent home with your child which should be completed and returned to school on Monday 14 December 2020. Teachers will still be available to support your child via Teams and email. Additionally, if you are in receipt of free school meals, we will be in touch over the next couple of days to ensure we can get vouchers to you.

I appreciate this may cause some concern but I want to reassure you that, as an Academy, we take the health, safety and wellbeing of our students, staff and the wider school, community extremely seriously and are working in partnership with the local public health authority to ensure the appropriate steps are taken. We are also working closely with the Department for Education, and the Trust, to ensure the risk of further transmission continues to be minimised as much as possible, and we will remain in contact with our parents and carers to provide regular updates and information.

Additionally, our contact tracing and robust health and safety measures have allowed us to effectively respond to this matter and ensure the Academy continues to be safe for all other students and staff. Your child should continue to attend school if they remain in good health and not show any COVID-19 symptoms.

In the meantime, I would also like to take this opportunity to remind you of the steps that we can all take to reduce the risk of spreading infection. These simple measures are:-

If your child, a household member or a member of your support bubble develops any of the following symptoms, we ask that you notify the school immediately and arrange a test by visiting <https://www.nhs.uk/ask-for-a-coronavirus-test> or by phoning 119.

- a new continuous cough;
- a high temperature;
- a loss of, or change in, your normal sense of taste or smell.

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If your child develops any of these symptoms, **they must not come to school and should remain at home for at least 10 days from the date when their symptoms appeared.** All other household members who remain well, must stay at home and not leave the house for 14 days from the date when their symptoms appeared. This includes anyone in your 'Support Bubble'.

Further information is available at: <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 your child or anyone in the household does develop symptoms, you can seek further advice from NHS 111 at <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/symptoms/> or by phoning 111.

As a community, we can also help reduce the risk of spreading COVID-19 by:-

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

I know these are challenging circumstances for our students, staff and wider school community and would like to thank you for your ongoing support during this time.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the Academy at [closure@skegnessacademy.org](mailto:closure@skegnessacademy.org) or use the following link to access further information: <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/>.

Yours sincerely



Mr T Johnson  
**Principal**

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