



**BIDDULPH
HIGH
SCHOOL**

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Headteacher: **Mrs E C Robinson BA (Hons)**



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City of Stoke-on-Trent Sixth Form College
Leek Road
Stoke-on-Trent
Staffordshire ST4 2RU
Chief Executive Officer: **Mark Kent**

18th October 2021

FOR THE ATTENTION OF THE PERSON WITH PARENTAL RESPONSIBILITY

Re: COVID-19 Update

We are, as you know, experiencing a continued rise in cases of COVID-19, specifically in Year 9. This morning we have received notification of another 7 students, in that year group, which increases our overall percentage of positive cases in Year 9 to 20%. We also have increasing cases in Year 10, although the picture is more stable for Years 11-13.

To try to reduce the spread further, we are asking Year 9 (only) to move to online learning from tomorrow, Tuesday 19th October, and these students will return to school on Tuesday 2nd November. The Local Outbreak Team have suggested that students test daily via Lateral Flow Tests for the rest of this week and students can request more testing kits if you need them.

Vaccination Programme

If you have consented to your child receiving the COVID-19 vaccination, and your child has not tested positive in the last 28 days, these are going ahead as planned on **Thursday 21st October** in the Sports Hall. Students in Years 10 and 11 should attend school as normal and these will be administered through the day. For those unable to receive the vaccination at this time, a 'mop-up' session will run at some point after half-term.

If your child is over 16 and has not been able to access a vaccination previously, we have gained access to a clinic running at the Sixth Form College, Leek Road, Stoke, Staffordshire ST4 2RU, on Tuesday 2nd November between 10am and 2pm. If you would like to take advantage of this opportunity for your child, please email the school office no later than Thursday 21st October office@biddulphhigh.co.uk and we will ensure that a place is booked for you. You will need to make your own transport arrangements to and from the college. A car park is available to the rear of the building.

In the meantime, the main symptoms to be aware of are:

- new continuous cough
- fever/high temperature
- loss of, or change in, sense of smell or taste.

There are additional symptoms now linked to the Delta variant:

- Headache
- Sore throat
- Runny nose.



What to do if your child develops symptoms of COVID 19

- If your child develops symptoms of COVID-19, they 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-coronavirus-test-or-by-calling-119>.
- If your child does develop symptoms, you can seek advice from NHS 111 at: <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/check-if-you-have-coronavirus-symptoms/> or by phoning 111.

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 are also hopeful that the extensive measures that we have put into place at school will be successful in avoiding the spread of the virus across other year groups:

- Face coverings continue to be worn in communal areas.
- **Siblings must now remain at home until they receive a negative PCR test.**
- PE kit must be worn on days where students have PE. This is to remove any transmission whilst changing. Full school uniform must be worn on non-PE days.
- We will retain the staggered end to the day, releasing year nine at 3:10pm.
- Assemblies will remain remote in classrooms.

Please remember that Monday 1st November is an INSET day and students return to school on Tuesday 2nd November. Year 11 mock examinations will begin on Tuesday 2nd November and we would strongly advise good preparation for these as they may inform final examination grades at the end of the year.

Please take good care and do not hesitate to contact us if you require advice or support: office@biddulphhigh.co.uk

Yours sincerely,



E C Robinson
Headteacher

