



**KING EDWARD VI
HANDSWORTH GRAMMAR
SCHOOL FOR BOYS**

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**KING EDWARD VI
ACADEMY TRUST
BIRMINGHAM**

16 December 2020

Dear Parent/Carer

COVID 19 Christmas Guidance

We have been tasked by the DfE to inform all families of students at HGS about what to do if students experience COVID-like symptoms during the upcoming holiday period. Attached to this letter are two flow charts.

The first flow chart explains what to do if your child experiences COVID symptoms **before 4pm Sunday 20th December 2020**. This marks a 48-hour period after the school closes for Christmas. This is important for many reasons. The first is so that you contact the school via the usual method of covidalert@handsworth.bham.sch.uk as this will inform the school of the potential need to carry out a track and trace for other students who maybe close contacts. In light of a positive test before Sunday, you must inform the school of this positive test so that the track and trace can then be carried out and implemented. **This means that if there is a positive case, some students will be asked to self-isolate during the Christmas break for a period of 10 days.** Parents of students who are close contacts will be contacted by text and email by senior school staff. **They must follow the national guidelines for self-isolation.**

The second flow chart explains what to do if your child experiences COVID symptoms **after 4pm 20th December 2020 and before the start of next term, which is Monday 4th January 2021**. If your child experiences COVID symptoms during this period, they must self-isolate and have a test. If the test is positive, the student and all family members should self-isolate for a period of 10 days. If this period of 10 days overlaps with the start of the new term, parents must inform the school by emailing covidalert@handsworth.bham.sch.uk to confirm students and dates of isolation.

This term has been one of the most challenging in recent history. Thanks to your support, the school has been able to mitigate the effects of the virus upon the community and keep the school open so that students can fully engage with the curriculum. The school hopes that every family has a restful and peaceful Christmas holiday.

Yours Sincerely

Mrs A Harvey
Assistant Head (Student Support)

Mr M Mohsin
Assistant Head (11-16)

Headmaster: Dr S.N. Bird BA (Hons), DipEd, MA (Oxon), EdD (Warwick), NPQH, FRGS, FRSA

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MY CHILD IS ILL AT THE START OF THE CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS – WHAT TO DO

SYMPTOMS THAT APPEAR BEFORE 4PM ON SUNDAY 20TH DECEMBER

Do they have COVID 19 symptoms?

COVID 19 symptoms:

- High temperature
- New persistent cough
- Loss of taste or smell

YES

If these symptoms start before or up to 4pm on Sunday 20th December

Your child needs a test –

Email

covidalert@handsworth.bham.sch.uk to say that your child is ill and going for a COVID TEST

Your child and everyone in the household must **self-isolate** until results comes back

NO

Enjoy a wonderful Christmas holiday

Test results

Positive

- **Inform** covidalert@handsworth.bham.sch.uk immediately.
- Your child must **self-isolate** for **10 days** from 1st day of symptoms.
- Everyone else in your household must **self-isolate** for **10 days** from 1st day of symptoms.
- The school will then inform people who have been in close contact with your child

Negative

Inform covidalert@handsworth.bham.sch.uk immediately

Enjoy a wonderful Christmas holiday

Self-isolate – this means that you must not leave your house other than to go to take a test if you need to have one. If the whole household is isolating, then you need to arrange for food deliveries etc. as you cannot go out to the shops. You cannot go to the park, to visit other people and other people cannot visit you. **You must stay at home to prevent the spread of the virus.**

MY CHILD IS ILL IN THE CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS

**SYMPTOMS THAT APPEAR AFTER 4PM ON SUNDAY 20TH DECEMBER AND BEFORE RETURN TO SCHOOL
ON Monday 4TH JANUARY 2021**

Do they have Covid 19 symptoms?
Covid 19 symptoms:
- High temperature
- New persistent cough
- Loss of taste or smell

YES

**If these symptoms start after 4pm on
Sunday 20th December**

Your child needs a test – call 119

Your child and everyone in the household
must **self-isolate** until result comes back

NO

Enjoy a wonderful Christmas holiday

Test results

Positive

- Your child must **self-isolate** for **10 days** from 1st day of symptoms- if this date means they cannot return on Monday 4th January inform school of absence in usual way
- Everyone else in your household must **self-isolate** for **10 days** from 1st day of symptoms.
- Anyone your child has had close contact with within 2 days of them developing the symptoms will self- isolate for 10 days

Negative

Enjoy a wonderful Christmas holiday

Self-isolate – this means that you must not leave your house other than to go to take a test if you need to have one. If the whole household is isolating, then you need to arrange for food deliveries etc. as you cannot go out to the shops. You cannot go to the park, to visit other people and other people cannot visit you. **You must stay at home to prevent the spread of the virus.**