

**Headteacher**

Sebastian Gray

Email

admin@lhaines.herts.sch.uk

Tel

01923 233146

Twitter

@LHS_Watford

AddressVicarage Road
Watford
Hertfordshire
WD18 0DD**Web**

www.lhaines.herts.sch.uk

Facebook

Laurance Haines School

Wednesday, 18 November 2020

Confirmed case of coronavirus (Covid-19) in school

Dear parents of Nursery and Reception Children,

I am writing to inform you that an individual in your child's bubble has tested positive for coronavirus (COVID-19). The school contacted the dedicated helpline introduced by Public Health England (PHE) and delivered by the NHS Business Services Authority. This helpline provided us with definitive advice on which individuals need to self-isolate due to close contact. Close contacts are:

- Those who have been in face-to-face contact with the individual for any length of time within one metre, including being coughed on, having a face-to-face conversation or having unprotected skin-to-skin contact.
- Those who have been in extended close contact with the individual, i.e. within one to two metres for more than 15 minutes.
- Those who have travelled in a small vehicle, e.g. a car, with the individual.

As the individual is a staff member working across the bubble, unfortunately, all Nursery and Reception pupils and staff members have been identified as close contacts and therefore are advised to self-isolate for a period 14 days. The member of staff, who has been self-isolating and therefore has not in school for the past 7 days, has been awaiting a test results which we have had confirmed today. Therefore, the return date to school for everyone in Nursery and Reception bubbles will be Thursday 26th November.

The other members of your household are not required to self-isolate unless your child subsequently develops symptoms. This means that adults in your household may continue to go to work and your child's siblings must come to school. If, however, your child develops symptoms, they will need to self-isolate for 10 days from the day their symptoms began, and the other members of your household for 14 days from this day.

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. The most common symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19) are recent onset of:

- a new continuous cough
- a high temperature
- a loss of, or change in, your normal sense of taste or smell (anosmia)

Your child will not be penalised for non-attendance and remote education will be provided throughout the period they are at home. Food parcels will also be provided for those children registered with the school as being in receipt of the pupil premium (office staff will contact you tomorrow).

If any further cases of coronavirus are confirmed, the school will continue their work with Public Health England to ensure the appropriate actions are taken. This may include more pupils and staff being sent home to self-isolate. You will be kept fully informed of any developments.

I understand that you may find this news worrying, so please get in touch with me via the school office to discuss any concerns. I am sure you will all join me in wishing the individual a safe recovery.

Warm regards,
Sebastian Gray

Headteacher

"For a better future"
