

9 September 2020

CVEA Update for Year 7 Parents/Carers

Dear Parent/Carer,

I hope your child has enjoyed their first few days at CVEA. If you have any concerns, please e-mail or ring Mr Rainbow and he will do his best to solve any problems you may have. Thank you once again for sending in your children in perfect uniform. I know it can be a financial challenge especially at the moment but you have 'done them proud' and I would go as far to say that in my 12 years as Principal here at Castle View Enterprise Academy Year 7 have returned in the most mature way, look amazing and are really settling in well despite all our COVID-19 restrictions.

I wanted to raise a few further issues with you:

COVID-19

We are beginning to get lots of questions about COVID-19 and the actions parents/carers need to take if there are issues at home or at school. There is a useful definition sent to us by Public Health England (PHE). I think you will find this helpful – I certainly did.

A 'contact' is a person who has been close to someone who has tested positive for COVID-19 anytime from 2 days before the person was symptomatic and up to 10 days from the start of symptoms (this is when they are infectious to others). If the person who has tested positive has not developed symptoms the time period would be 2 days before the date of the test and up to 10 days from the date of the test.

A contact can be:

- *people who spend significant time in the same household as a person who has tested positive for COVID-19*
- *a person who has had face-to-face contact (within one metre) with someone who has tested positive for COVID-19, including:*
 - *being coughed on*
 - *having a face-to-face conversation within one metre*
 - *having skin-to-skin physical contact*
 - *contact within one metre for one minute or longer without face-to-face contact*
- *a person who has been within 2 metres of someone who has tested positive for COVID-19 for more than 15 minutes*
- *sexual partners*
- *a person who has travelled in a small vehicle with someone who has tested positive for COVID-19 or in a large vehicle or plane near someone who has tested positive for COVID-19*

You MUST not send your child into school if they are poorly and displaying the COVID-19 symptoms as advised by the NHS. If children are unwell in school, we will isolate them in reception and call you to immediately take them home.

Please be sure we have up to date contact details for you and be sure that you can nominate someone to collect them. If your child becomes unwell with a new, continuous cough or a high temperature, or has a loss of, or change in, their normal sense of taste or smell (anosmia), they should not be sent to school and will be sent home and advised to follow the guidance for households with possible or confirmed coronavirus (COVID-19) infection. This sets out that they must:

- self-isolate for at least 10 days
- arrange to have a test to see if they have coronavirus (COVID-19)

Flu Vaccination

The Government have decided to offer all year 7 students a 'flu vaccination'. This is the first time this has been offered and we think that this is a great opportunity to protect children from the winter flu. This is not an injection. It is nasal droplets. I hope that you will all support this and allow your child to have this protection. Letters will come out in the next two weeks and there is a quick turnaround of one week before we have to submit them to the NHS. The date the nurses will visit is 4th December. Mr Rainbow will be managing this and will send out reminders to get them all in. As always you must get the form back and signed or your child cannot have this. Please help with a quick turnaround.

Remote Learning

As you may be aware, the incidents of COVID-19 have increased a little in and around our community. We need to be able to react to this very quickly by providing remote learning to any student who may test positive or has to self-isolate for 14 days due to close contact or family members becoming poorly. During lockdown, we managed this extremely well. One of the ways we made contact was via the students own mobile number. In order to do this, we intend to collect student's mobile numbers this week. We are seeking permission from parents to do this and we would always advise you when we are going to use this and move into remote teaching. If you do NOT wish us to have and use your child's phone number, then please contact Mr Rainbow and let him know. We will need an alternative way to contact your child should they be off school with COVID-19 related symptoms so we can start the process of remote learning. We have to be able to do this – it is prescribed by the Department of Education that the students receive their full national curriculum and teaching offer when they are at home. As a school, we prided ourselves with the work staff set and monitored over lockdown. All parents were impressed and grateful for the support offered.

We also need to know if you are not on line at home and if you do not have a computer or device for your child to use. We are looking into a scheme whereby you can purchase kit on a payment basis from our IT provider but we do not have this ready yet. It is something to consider as they move through secondary school. Phones are not suitable for some or most of the work. Small devices are often cheaper than a phone. Think about a computer for Xmas! If you do not have access and your child is at home, we will look to loan you equipment. However, we have limited resources to cover the school both doing the school day and for those working from home.



E-mail

All students will be issued with a school e-mail address and any interaction with teachers will be via this e-mail address, we do not use private e-mail addresses for students due to safeguarding reasons. Year 7 will get this account in the next few days. All emails are monitored for safety and security. All of our equipment and laptops has our ESAFE software attached which picks up ANY inappropriate or alarming messages or text. If that were to occur at home or at school on our equipment your child would be interviewed by myself or Ms Woollett and you will receive a letter or a direct call.

Yours faithfully



Mrs J S Bridges OBE
Principal

