Sandwell Council House
Freeth Street
Oldbury
B69 3DE

Date: 09/11/2020

Dear Parent/Guardian

RE: HEALTH PROTECTION (LOCAL AUTHORITY POWERS) (ENGLAND) REGULATIONS 2020 REQUEST FOR CO-OPERATION FOR HEALTH PROTECTION PURPOSES: CORONAVIRUS COVID-19

Due to the increasing rates of COVID-19 both nationally and within Sandwell, we are writing to you to reinforce that if anyone in your household develops symptoms of COVID-19, the household must self-isolate, and the symptomatic person must get a COVID-19 test.

The most common symptoms of COVID-19 are
- recent onset of a new continuous cough and/or
- a high temperature and/or
- a loss or change to your sense of smell or taste.

A test is not needed if you don't have symptoms or are a contact of someone who has symptoms.

By everyone following the guidance and isolating if they are displaying symptoms, we hope to be able to keep schools open and drive the rates of COVID-19 infection down.

As COVID-19 presents a significant harm to health, Sandwell Metropolitan Borough Council request that you take the following actions immediately:
- Anyone who is displaying symptoms of COVID-19 isolate, along with their household needs to self-isolate. Additionally, any symptomatic people should go and get a test.
- Self-isolation means:
    - You must stay at home. Do not go to work, school or public areas and do not use public transport or taxis;
    - Do not send your children to school or nursery or allow them access to public areas;
    - Do not invite friends, family, employees or anyone who is not normally a resident, into your home;
    - You should not go out to buy food or other essentials
- If your child tests positive and attends an education setting you must inform them so that necessary, contact tracing can occur.

If you require help with buying groceries, other shopping or picking up medication, you will need to ask friends or relatives or contact Sandwell Metropolitan Borough Council on **0121 726 3983**. I have also enclosed a list of organisations who could help locally. Alternatively, you can order medication by phone or online. You can also order your shopping online. Make sure you tell delivery drivers to leave items outside for collection if you order online. The delivery driver or any friends/relatives delivering items should not come into your home.

If you develop symptoms of coronavirus and haven't already been tested, you can book a test by calling 119 or visiting https://www.gov.uk/guidance/coronavirus-covid-19-getting-tested

Anyone who tests positive for COVID-19 will receive a telephone call from a Contact Tracer who will ask questions about places you may have visited and people you may have had contact with. This 'Contact Tracing' helps protect our communities and stops the spread of the virus. Your cooperation with this process is invaluable to help stop the spread of COVID-19.

Yours sincerely

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