Dear Parents,

I am writing to let you know that, as a result of one positive C-19 test result in our school community late yesterday afternoon, our local Test and Protect team has carried out contact tracing at Dollar Academy. Working closely with the school and our Local Health Protection Team, NHS Forth Valley has carried out a careful risk assessment to establish a list of close contacts within the school. As a result of the careful mitigations that we have put in place at Dollar, contact tracing was completed within three hours yesterday evening. With this in mind, I wanted to share some of the messaging from our Local Health Protection Team, with whom we have been in regular contact, which, I hope, will provide some reassurance.

The very clear message from our Health Protection Team and NHS is that the transmission risk at school, is extremely low and there is currently no evidence of transmission within the school itself. The timing and circumstances surrounding the positive case mean that contact tracing has been confined to a short, isolated period of time, and a very limited area of the school campus. Three contacts have been notified and are being advised to self-isolate as a 'precaution'. The localised area of school has been thoroughly cleaned and disinfected.

It would be timely to remind you of the general advice currently in place for everyone: if anyone in your household develops symptoms of COVID-19 the symptomatic person should self-isolate and be tested as soon as possible. Everyone else in the household should also stay at home if someone you live with or someone in your extended household has symptoms. The symptoms include:

· a high temperature or fever

· a new continuous cough

· a loss of or change in sense of smell or taste.

I would also like to remind all pupils and their parents of the vital importance of continuing to observe the rules on social distancing and other measures to prevent infection such as regular handwashing.

Further information on COVID-19, including what to do if you develop symptoms and how to access a test, is available from NHS Inform:<https://www.nhsinform.scot/illnesses-and-conditions/infections-and-poisoning/coronavirus-covid-19>