

Dear Parents and Carers,

We are continuing to follow guidelines and advice from the Government and the DfE on Covid-19 (Coronavirus). We are taking practical steps to support the combat of the Covid-19 virus and ensure our students and staff are supported in order to continue learning.

The UK situation is being monitored and updated daily which we are following. School closure will be on the advice of the Government and DfE.

We recognise that students, parents, schools and sixth forms will be concerned about the possible impact of coronavirus on the 2020 exam series. Our advice at this time is to continue to prepare for exams and other assessments as normal.

We continue to work closely with exam boards, other regulators and the DfE. Our priority is to ensure fairness to students this summer and keeping disruption to a minimum.

To assist the public, NHS England have launched an online Covid-19 advice tool which allows you to answer questions, and then gives advice on what to do:

<https://111.nhs.uk/service/covid-19>

Ms Sarah Finch
CEO



UPDATES AND ADVICE

Website

Our school websites have all been updated with the latest Coronavirus advice and guidance.

Covid-19 Stages

The Government's plan is in 4 stages:

Containment, Delay, Research and Mitigate. The Government has announced that we are moving out of the containment phase and into delay, in response to the ongoing coronavirus outbreak.

What to do?

The Government are asking anyone who shows certain symptoms to self-isolate for 7 days, regardless of whether they have travelled to affected areas. This means they want people to stay at home and avoid all but essential contact with others for 7 days from the point of displaying mild symptoms, to slow the spread of infection. The symptoms are:

- A high temperature (37.8 degrees and above)
- A new, continuous cough

You do not need to call NHS 111 to go into self-isolation. If your symptoms worsen during home isolation or are no better after 7 days contact NHS 111 online at 111.nhs.uk.

If you have no internet access, you should call NHS 111. For a medical emergency dial 999.

Will the schools close?

We are planning to minimise disruption to teaching and learning. We are working with the school community to maximise the efforts to limit the spread by increased hand washing. We will continue to monitor school absence for any trends, and follow advice from the DfE and Government.

What will happen if the school closes?

In the event that we need to close one or all of our schools, each school will inform parents and children of the plans for the continuation of learning. Information will also be shared via the school websites.

We will endeavour to reduce any disruption to the learning and exam preparation of pupils.

We will ensure our exam year groups (current Year 6, Year 11 and Year 13) are provided with contact details for staff in order to reduce any disruption to their learning and exam preparation.

If you need to self-isolate

If you display symptoms and need to self-isolate, please contact the school and advise you are self-isolating. Please be aware if you are self-isolating, it is for a period of 7 days.

Helpline and Advice

Coronavirus Helpline:

0800 046 8687

8am – 6pm (Monday – Friday)

DfE.coronavirushelpline@education.gov.uk

Stay Safe

We are encouraging increased hand washing for all of the school community.

<https://youtu.be/bQCP7waTRWU>

We encourage students to bring a small pack of tissues in order to contain a cough or sneeze.

What to do if you think you may be infected?

The current advice is to self-isolate and refer to NHS online 111.nhs.uk.

Symptoms of Coronavirus

- a cough
- a high temperature
- shortness of breath

But these symptoms do not necessarily mean you have the illness. They are very similar to other illnesses such as a common cold or flu. Refer to 111 online 111.nhs.uk if you are unsure.

Food Bank

Food banks are designed to provide short-term, emergency support with food. Their aim is to relieve the immediate pressure by providing food, while also providing additional support to help people.

To find your nearest foodbank, please visit:

<https://www.trusselltrust.org/get-help/find-a-foodbank/>

#togetherwegrow

UPCOMING EVENTS



We will continue to monitor the Government advice. We will work with our students and parents and take any necessary action should an event, trip or activity need to be delayed or cancelled. If we need to cancel a trip, event or activity, please be patient whilst we work through either rescheduling or refunding the event.

NEWS



Public Health England advises that the risk to individuals in the UK has been increased from moderate to high.

Detailed information for the public can be found here:

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/coronavirus-covid-19-information-for-the-public>



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