

Friday, 13 March 2020

Dear Parent,

We would like to reassure you that we are continuing to do everything we can to keep students safe and prevent the spread of Coronavirus. So far, there have been no cases of the virus at school or amongst anyone connected to the school.

The Prime Minister yesterday indicated that the peak of the virus could be 10-14 weeks from now. This means that avoiding disruption to your child's education for as long as possible is important to us. Outlined below are the plans for continuing the education of your child if the school did close and also how we are keeping hygiene standards high within the school.

School closure

The school will remain open unless we are told to close by Public Health England. If this were to happen, you would be informed by text message and by information on the school website. Your child would be sent home with a pack of work to do and instructions on how to access further work online, on the website or via email. You would still be able to contact the school by phone or email and your child would be able to also.

Any students taking exams would receive as much support as possible and we would contact you with any alternative exam arrangements.

What can I do to support?

As a parent, the easiest way that you could support your child is by making sure that they have access to a computer which they could use to work on if the school was closed as this would enable them to access online materials and email. This does not need to be an expensive device: a Chromebook or similar device that can access the internet can be bought for as little as £100.

Hygiene

We are doing everything we can to keep standards of hygiene within the school high and we have given the following advice to students:

The Corona Five



- 1. Wash your hands frequently using soap and water for 20 seconds**
- 2. Don't touch your face with unwashed hands**
- 3. We are a handshake-free zone**
- 4. Cough into a tissue and bin it, or into your elbow**
- 5. Don't share drinks, bottles or plates**

We have increased the amount of cleaning that takes place during the school day, particularly in areas that have high contact for students, and we have made sure that soap is always available. All visitors to the school have to declare that they have not visited a high-risk area and must use hand sanitiser when they arrive.

Absences from school

The advice from the Government is that children are not particularly vulnerable to Coronavirus and there is no reason for any child to have time off school due to fear they may contract Coronavirus. The latest NHS advice is that anyone with a high temperature and a new, continuous cough should stay at home for seven days. Please keep your child at home if they display these symptoms and contact the school.

Our priority is to always protect your child and to protect their education, and we will do our best to do both of these things in the current circumstances. We hope that this will reassure you that we are following the guidance given to us and remaining both calm and alert.

Please contact us if you have any concerns.

Yours faithfully,



Peter Jones
Principal

Katie Gillam
Principal