



Ms Sue Lovecy, Head of School

Tuesday 17 March 2020

Dear parent/carer,

### **Corona Virus**

Since our update in the newsletter and on the website last Friday, the effect and the disruption to normal routine is increasing. We continue to plan for all eventualities, on a daily basis, following the advice of ***the Department of Education and Public Health, England.***

### **Current position**

Students who are presenting with a **new persistent cough and/or temperature or are in a household where someone has these symptoms**, should self isolate for **14 days**. This means all household members must stay at home and not leave the house for 14 days. The 14-day period starts from the day when the first person in the house became ill. It is likely that people living within a household will infect each other or be infected already. **Staying at home for 14 days will greatly reduce the overall amount of infection the household could pass on to others in the community.**

### **Partial closure from MONDAY 23 MARCH**

Staff will be following new Public Health guidelines from MONDAY 23 MARCH meaning that a number of staff will start to self- isolate. **Due to these staffing issues we have had to take the decision to partially close school for year 7 and 8 from Monday 23 March until further notice.** Work will be set and handed in via **'Show my home work'** and using school based email

### **Full school closure**

It is anticipated that at some point the government will decide to close schools to delay the spread of the virus. As soon as this decision is made we will inform parents. Work will be set and handed in via **'Show my home work'** and using school based email with a priority for years 11, 10 and 6.

**Please make sure your contact details are up to date. Please let school know if you are unable to access the internet.**

### **Exams/SATs**

There is concern about the upcoming exam/SAT season. The Department for Education and the JCQ (exam authority) will decide on action if and when necessary. When schools are informed we will of course inform students and parents. **This is not a decision that school can take.**

**Self Isolation - This means all household members must stay at home and not leave the house for 14 days**



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- if you can, move any vulnerable individuals (such as the elderly and those with underlying health conditions) out of your home, to stay with friends or family for the duration of the home isolation period
- if you cannot move vulnerable people out of your home, stay away from them as much as possible
- if you have coronavirus symptoms:
  - do not go to a GP surgery, pharmacy or hospital
  - testing for coronavirus is not needed if you're staying at home
  - ask your friends and family to help you to get the things you need to stay at home
  - wash your hands regularly for 20 seconds, each time using soap and water, or use hand sanitiser

if you feel you cannot cope with your symptoms at home, or your condition gets worse, or your symptoms do not get better after 7 days, then use the NHS 111 online coronavirus service. If you do not have internet access, call NHS 111. For a medical emergency dial 999

### **Things to help you prepare now**

Make a plan for your household or family

The best thing you can do now is plan for how you can adapt your daily routine, and that of others in your household, to be able to follow this advice. Some of the ways in which you could prepare include:

- talk to your neighbours and family and exchange phone numbers of household contacts
  - consider and plan for those in your home who are considered vulnerable
  - create a contact list with phone numbers of neighbours, schools, employer, chemist, NHS 111
- set up online shopping accounts if possible.

This is an unprecedented time for us all; these actions are necessary to protect the most vulnerable in our community.

Your sincerely,

Sue Lovecy  
Head Teacher