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Tom Beveridge: Headteacher

16th March 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

I 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.

Public Health England has advised the member of staff at the school that has been self-isolating that they no longer need to isolate themselves and can return to work as of tomorrow. The member of staff does not, and has not, had any symptoms of coronavirus and the original advice to isolate was purely precautionary. The member of staff was only ever a contact of a case and has not at any point displayed any symptoms of coronavirus.

On Thursday the Prime Minister 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.

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 instructions on how to access further work via Classcharts, on the website or via email. Work packs would be provided for any students without access to the internet. You would still be able to contact the school by 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.

In the meantime, we will continue to follow the national guidance provided by the government and Public Health England and we are in regular contact. The guidance from Public Health England has changed following the government's move to the delay phase in response to the virus, and therefore we are responding accordingly.

Absences from school

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. However, 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.



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Company No: 7699625



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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. I hope that this will reassure you that we are following the guidance given to us and remaining both calm and alert.

The best advice for everyone is to carry on with the public health advice on personal hygiene:

- Catch coughs and sneezes with a tissue, dispose of the tissue in a bin immediately and then wash your hands with soap and water or alcohol-based hand sanitizer
- Wash your hands with soap and water (or use hand sanitizer) frequently and especially on arrival and before leaving home or any childcare or educational setting, before cooking and eating, after using the toilet, and after breaks or sporting activities.

You can keep up to date with national advice and information regarding coronavirus by visiting <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/>

The situation is fast moving but we are committed to keeping you up to date and will continue to do so. Thank you for your continued support during this challenging time,

Yours sincerely,

Tom Beveridge
Headteacher



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