

Dear Parent/Carer

Update Coronavirus

Further to our letter last week outlining our Coronavirus action plan, senior colleagues and I have put together further plans in order to respond purposefully to what will be a challenging time for us all. The school will be guided by three core principles:

- The safety and wellbeing of all members of our community
- Following government advice and trying to stay open
- Respect, responsibility and resilience

Obviously, I am unable to provide any certainties at present, but it is important that we respond to all eventualities in a calm and proportionate manner. Our pupils, in particular, require reassurance.

As you would expect, we have developed a detailed contingency plan should staff absence levels mean we are not able to operate safely.

I am unable to provide details regarding GCSE examinations at the moment, but the focus of our preparations behind the scenes is to ensure that matters are in hand in order to support pupils, especially those in Year 11. ShowMyHomework will be of crucial importance but we will also have paper copies of work to assist learning, although resources are likely to be stretched. Year 11's already have access to GCSEPod for revision, and are receiving training on Microsoft One Drive to enable a two-way communication with their teacher if self-isolating. More information on remote learning for all age groups will be provided over the coming days.

It will be difficult to balance the desire to stay open, fully or partially, given the new Government advice to avoid spread of infection, in that:

- Individuals are asked to self-isolate for 7 days from the onset of COVID-19 symptoms and any other individuals in the household are now asked to self-isolate for 14 days from that moment as well.

Any staff or pupil becoming unwell on site with COVID-19 symptoms will be sent home.

- a new, continuous cough
- high temperature (i.e. 37.8 degrees or higher/you feel hot to touch on your chest or back)

Against this background every member of our community must play their part. Pupils should continue to come to school fully equipped and respect health and hygiene regimes and resources.

Pupils and staff must wash their hands regularly and thoroughly for 20 seconds.

I will continue to keep you fully informed over the coming days and weeks.

Your full and continued support at this time is much appreciated.

Yours sincerely

Benjamin Bond
Headteacher