

12<sup>th</sup> March 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

### **Coronavirus (COVID-19) Update**

I am contacting you following the spread of the coronavirus (COVID-19) in the UK and abroad.

I would like to take this opportunity to outline the preventative measures the schools within the Trust have put in place in order to minimise the spread of infection in the event of an outbreak within your child's school.

As per the advice from the government, the schools have taken the following actions for infection control:

- Put up coronavirus infection control measures information posters around all schools
- Encouraged good hygiene by promoting the importance of handwashing for at least 20 seconds with warm water and soap in the following circumstances:
  - Before leaving home
  - On arrival at school
  - After using the toilet
  - After breaks and sporting activities
  - Before food preparation
  - Before eating any food, including snacks
  - Before leaving school
- Ensured pupils and staff understand that they must cover their cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue away
- Ensured frequently touched objects and surfaces are cleaned and disinfected more thoroughly and regularly than usual
- Made staff aware they need to call NHS 111 if someone becomes unwell and that they need to isolate any unwell people in a separate room
- Made staff aware that people who have returned from category 1 specified countries/areas in the last 14 days need to self-isolate for 14 days before they return to school
- Made staff aware that people who have returned from category 2 specified countries/areas in the last 14 days need to stay at home if they develop symptoms
- The full list of category 1 and category 2 countries can be found on the government website.

As an important part of our school communities, I would ask that you encourage good infection control practices at home, such as thorough handwashing, and keep your child informed about the things they can do to discourage the spread of infection.

Selene Sawyer  
Executive Headteacher/CEO

Unless your child has tested positive for the coronavirus (and hasn't been exposed to anyone with the virus), they should attend school as usual (unless they are too unwell due to an unrelated illness), as per the current government advice.

If you think your child may have been exposed to or has coronavirus, please contact your child's school directly at the earliest opportunity.

We would like to reiterate that these are only preventative measures in place to anticipate any occurrences of coronavirus within the schools

The Department for Education coronavirus helpline is available to answer questions about COVID-19 relating to education and children's social care. Staff, parents and young people can contact this helpline as follows:

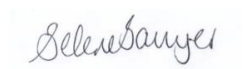
Phone: 0800 046 8687

Email: [DfE.coronavirushelpline@education.gov.uk](mailto:DfE.coronavirushelpline@education.gov.uk)

Opening hours: 8am to 6pm (Monday to Friday)

Finally, please ensure that you keep your child's school informed of any change of contact details so that in the event we need to get in touch with you, we are able to do so quickly.

Yours sincerely,



Mrs. S Sawyer  
Executive Headteacher/CEO