

16 March 2020

Dear Parent/ Carer

Update on Coronavirus (COVID-19)

Following the news conference by Prime Minister Boris Johnson on Monday afternoon the government have introduced further changes to their advice to the public to deal with the virus outbreak. This will create further disruption to our normal way of life however are important to ensure wider public safety. Guidance now is.

If a student, or anyone in the household has either:

- a high temperature (37.8 degrees and above)
- a new continuous cough

then everyone in the household should stay at home for **fourteen** days and avoid all but essential contact with others (self-isolation), to slow the spread of the infection. **This means that they should not be out of the house during this period.** You do not need to call NHS 111 to go into self-isolation. If your symptoms worsen during home isolation or are no better after 7 days contact NHS 111 online at 111.nhs.uk. If you have no internet access, you should call NHS 111. For a medical emergency dial 999.

This updated advice is for all households in which there are symptoms, including any that previously had an individual self-isolating under previous guidance. They must now do so following the time period of fourteen days in the latest guidance.

As we said in our last letter where students present with these symptoms we will contact you and they will need to be collected from school quickly, however they and all members of the household will need to go into self-isolation for a period of **fourteen** days.

If your child is going to be absent from school can we ask you to continue to ring the absence line on 01661 832486 Option 1. When leaving a message please be specific about what is wrong with your son/ daughter and if they are going to be absent for a fourteen-day period (self-isolation) due to the symptoms outlined above.

In addition to this updated guidance on social distancing means we have decided to cancel our Year 12 Parents' Evening that was scheduled for Wednesday 18 March. We intend to reschedule this for later in the academic year, if circumstances allow.

However, school remains open and the day to day operation of the school continues including supporting all young people, especially those preparing for the upcoming examination period.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your ongoing support and ask for your understanding and compliance with the new measures announced yesterday as we recognise that they may cause significant disruption to normal family life, but they are essential.

Finally, as this situation evolves we will continue to follow any updated advice and communicate this to you.

Yours faithfully

Annmarie Moore
Headteacher