

Coronavirus Update

Dear Parents

I would like to update you about our response to the Covid-19 situation. There are currently no medical concerns in the school, with those students who visited Italy at half term having been tested and cleared.

What we have done:

We have followed Public Health England's advice and re-iterated messages around personal hygiene. All of our facilities are fully stocked with soap and the cleaning team are ensuring that all areas are kept clean. Our medical officer is thoroughly checking any student who feels unwell.

We will continue to pass on any updates from the Department for Education or Public Health England. We will monitor advice and act where appropriate.

What parents need to do:

In addition to reinforcing messages concerning personal hygiene, we would ask that any family travelling abroad keeps up to date with advice around the possible need to self-isolate when returning to the UK. We would be grateful, should your child be off school, if you could communicate the specific reason to enable us to monitor any pattern that may emerge. In the unlikely event that your child is tested for Covid-19, please ensure that you inform the school immediately.

What might we do?

There is an increasing probability that schools might close for a short period, regardless of whether they have been directly affected by Covid-19.

We have held a number of meetings in school over the last fortnight around contingency plans in the event of closure. We are currently ensuring that staff and students have access to, and know how to access the school's online learning platform. Further details will follow any announcement from the Department for Education re: closure.

In circumstances where there was a confirmed case of Covid-19 within the school, we would take advice from Public Health England. Those schools already affected in this way have closed for a few days to complete a 'deep clean'.

School trips, events and public exams:

These areas will be affected by this issue. Each visit already planned will be carefully considered and different outcomes are possible depending on the particular circumstances. We will communicate with parents and students involved as appropriate. It is worth noting that the general rule of thumb regarding insurance is that refunds will only be made by insurance companies if the Foreign and Commonwealth Office advises against all travel to that particular destination. It is unlikely that further trips will be planned during the Summer Term, and this is likely to impact upon proposals for the Duke of Edinburgh Award for Year 10 students.

With regard to public examinations it is very difficult to know what the impact might be. We will continue to prepare our students in line with the current examination schedule.

Finally, could I ask parents to inform us of any recent contact number/e-mail changes, to ensure that we are able to contact you in the coming weeks.

Yours sincerely,



Mr Michael Kiely

Headteacher