

11 March 2020

Dear Parent/Carer

The situation regarding Coronavirus is constantly changing and I would like to reassure you that we are sent daily updates from the Government. We are closely following all their advice about minimising the spread of the virus. This includes encouraging staff and students to wash their hands regularly and thoroughly as the main way to protect ourselves, and we have displayed posters around the school.

I am happy to say that, to date, there are no confirmed cases of Coronavirus affecting any student or member of staff at the school. However, we are drawing up contingency plans should there be any cases confirmed or should we need to, or be instructed to, close the school.

Presently there is no directive from the Department for Education that schools should close. However, if schools are directed to close in the coming weeks then we will issue work to students via Show My Homework on a daily basis. The guidance for teachers and students is attached. School closure information will only be issued to parents via our text messaging service and we will post further information on our website and social media pages.

I hope this reassures you that, although there are no plans to close the school at this point, we are preparing for all eventualities.

We continue to monitor the situation regularly and to follow the advice of Public Health England (PHE). We are encouraging all members of the school to help in slowing the spread of all germs, including Coronavirus, by:

- carrying tissues and using them to catch coughs or sneezes;
- placing the tissue in the bin;
- washing their hands with soap and water, or using a sanitiser gel to kill the germs.

Based on current evidence, Coronavirus COVID-19 presents with flu-like symptoms including a fever, a cough, or difficulty breathing. The current evidence is that most cases appear to be mild. Anyone who is concerned about health symptoms is advised to follow the advice about what to do on the Government's website (<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/coronavirus-covid-19-information-for-the-public>) and nhs.uk.

The latest information on the 'at risk' countries can be found at <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/travel-advice-novel-coronavirus>.

We will be endorsing this guidance in our school, so if any members of your family, including pupils at the school, visit any of the affected countries, please follow the above advice. We will continue to monitor the situation and keep in touch with you as it develops.

Thank you for your support in protecting the health and wellbeing of all our students.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ben Solly', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Ben Solly
Principal