

13th March 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope that you are all well.

I understand that there is a wide range of information being presented to parents regarding the current situation with Covid19 (Coronavirus). I am therefore writing to you in order to offer a calm and considered approach to what we, as a Trust and its schools', have planned during this time of uncertainty.

We intend to do everything in our power to remain open for as long as possible and to continue to offer our services to our children and families for as long as we are permitted. However, we will be following the advice of Public Health England and the Government as the safety, security and health of the children and their families is of the highest importance. It is therefore vital that you now follow the new advice regarding self isolation and personal hygiene - <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/>

Due to this new advice, if your child is presenting with a high temperature and/or a persistent cough you will need to self-isolate for seven days. In this event, please report this to your school and be aware that any child with these symptoms will not be allowed back into the setting until after the seventh day. Any other sickness should be reported as normal, however, children being kept away from school with no symptoms will be marked as an unauthorised absence.

There maybe some changes over the next few weeks regarding educational visits and extended school activities and you will be informed by your individual school in a timely manner if there are any changes to the programme.

To help prepare for any further information being released we ask that you download the school's information system Studybugs and our School App as a matter of urgency. Please also be aware that each school will be updating their websites with news on a daily basis as of Monday 16th March 2020.

In the event of the Government declaring a closure of all schools, we will have no choice but to comply and we are currently organising plans to provide pupils with home learning opportunities linked to the curriculum. Information on how to access these materials will follow, should the need arise.

If you have trouble understanding this letter please also speak to a member of staff so they may help you to understand the contents.

Thank you for your understanding in these uncertain times and remember to try not to panic, follow the hygiene guidelines and keep open the lines of communication with us, especially when reporting symptoms that your child may be experiencing so that we continue 'working together, achieving for all'.

Best Wishes,

Paul Harris
CEO
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