



SMA

Wednesday, 11 March 2020

Dear Parent/Carer,

I am writing to update you on the latest guidance the school has received from the Department of Education and the measures the school has put into place to safeguard students in relation to Coronavirus (Covid-19).

Currently the school has no known cases of Coronavirus and are unaware of anyone in the school community being tested.

The latest guidance is as follows:

- Personal hygiene is the most important way we can tackle COVID-19, especially washing hands more; and the catch it, bin it, kill it strategy for those with coughs and sneezes.
- Wash your hands more often for 20 seconds with soap and hot water.
- In addition to handwashing before eating, and after coughing and sneezing, both children and staff should also wash hands after using toilets and travelling on public transport.

All toilet facilities in school have plenty of soap in the dispensers and there are anti-bacterial dispensers at the entrance to the canteen and other key areas around the school site. If students wish to bring into school a small bottle of antibacterial wash they may do so provided this is used sensibly. We have put posters in all toilets and on the Personal Development PowerPoint about hand washing and how to minimise the spread of germs to remind students.

We will continue to be vigilant with cleanliness and in ensuring we are aware of the symptoms and latest expert advice.

Please can I remind parents/carers, that should your child or a member of your household display any symptoms of Coronavirus, you need to keep your child at home and call 111 and inform us of the situation. The NHS guidelines of recognising the symptoms of Coronavirus are:

- A cough
- A high temperature
- A shortness of breath

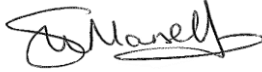
(although these symptoms do not necessarily mean that you have the illness)

In terms of students who present as unwell in the day we are following our usual procedures of contacting parents and asking for them to be collected as soon as possible. We are following up any students who we think are showing symptoms through contact with parents and Public Health England.

If you are attending school (for example, for Year 11 Parents' Evening tomorrow), please be aware that we are asking staff not to shake hands.

We will continue to seek advice from Public Health England and the Department for Education and will keep you updated.

Yours sincerely,



Stephen Mansell
Headteacher

