

Our ref: MAL
17th March 2020



Dear Parents/Carers

RE: COVID-19 (Coronavirus) – Further Update

In response to the current situation regarding Coronavirus, the Academy is following the advice of Public Health England, the Department of Health, and the Department for Education to promote the safety and wellbeing of our students, staff, and local community. It is currently very clear at this stage that places of education are to remain open unless directed to close by Public Health England.

Should your child develop a high temperature and/or a new, continuous cough then they must not attend the Academy, and self-isolate at home. The guidance on how long you must do this for, can be found here: www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19

The guidance is also that you should not go to a GP surgery, pharmacy, or hospital, and that you do not need to contact NHS 111 to tell them that you are staying home. We would ask that you kindly inform the Academy's attendance team.

We are aware that there are a small number of students whose families have decided to keep them at home in self-isolation in response to these latest guidelines. Public Health England have maintained their advice that in most cases, even if there is a confirmed case within the local community, closure of the Academy is unnecessary. However, at some point in the future it is likely that we will be directed to close.

If your child is self-isolated at home, and in the event of closure, the Academy has prepared an eLearning Hub that will be made available for all students. We will prioritise the provision of suitable work for Years 11 and 13 in readiness for the examinations due to be sat in May and June (we expect the government to provide detailed guidance in the event that disruption is caused to the national examinations timetable).

To support your child, this week we will be reviewing our records of students who not have access to a smart phone or computer at home, so that we can look at alternative paper-based support for your child should it be required.

Chief Executive: Dr Caroline J S Badyal, EdD, MA BE.d, DipEd, NPQH | Head of School: Mr Mark Arnall BA Hons, MA, NPQH

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To further limit the risks to our Academy community we have decided to:

- ✓ cancel or postpone off-site trips and sporting fixtures in the immediate future;
- ✓ limit external visitors, other than students, staff, and parents/carers, to those essential to the continued safe operations of the Academy;
- ✓ postponement of Parents' Consultation Evenings, and other large-scale events.

As an Academy we do not want to cause any unnecessary alarm, but by sharing our plan, we hope that this reassures you that we are prepared and planning ahead.

Please see the Academy website for information and specific advice on Coronavirus for places of education as provided by Public Health England, we have set up a dedicated support site that we hope you find useful: www.q3academy.org.uk/coronavirus

Yours sincerely



Mark Arnall
Head of School

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