

17 March 2020

Dear Parents/Carers

Re: Coronavirus

First of all I would like to express my continued gratitude to all parents/carers who have sent such supportive e mails regarding our communications re: Coronavirus and the current situation.

As you are aware things are changing daily and we are doing our best to try and stay on top of all of the guidance/advice and make decisions based upon these (a challenge in itself!). To this end, please see the following updates:

Self-Isolation

In line with the most recent guidance, anybody with the symptoms outlined below should remain in self-isolation at home as per the Government guidelines (see link below). This now includes **all members** of the family living in the same household. Please stay at home if you or anybody in your household has either:

- A high temperature
- A new, continuous or persistent cough

To see the latest advice about self-isolation and social distancing and knowing how to react should you have a concern about your child's health please see

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-stay-at-home-guidance>

In order to support our students who are having to self-isolate, we ask that they/you regularly check Edulink for work updates from their teachers and also use the following websites to continue to support with their learning and/or revision for exams:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize>

<https://www.s-cool.co.uk/>

<https://getrevising.co.uk/>

Should the advice from the Government be that we need to close, then staff will continue to set work through Edulink and offer advice and guidance as needed.

Exams

At this current time, following advice from Ofqual, we are planning for our summer exams to go ahead as scheduled. We will of course continue to monitor this and advise as soon as we know

anymore. A more detailed letter will be sent home in the next few days to parents of year 11 & 13, outlining the exams procedures as they currently stand. With regards to the PPEs for years 10 & 11 that have been taking place, for those students who have missed papers, we are currently arranging for these to be sent home so that they can be completed. These will of course be marked in due course.

Trips/Events

We need to advise that the following trips have had to be cancelled:

- GoBowling trip scheduled for this evening (years 7 & 8)
- The Globe Theatre trip as the theatre is now closed (years 9 & 10)
- The Year 10 "Gameover" trip
- The Open Mic Night on the 27th March
- All Cadet activities have been suspended until further notice

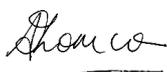
Paris/Disneyland (scheduled for May half term) – I am sure that it will be no surprise to hear that we have, regretfully, had to cancel this trip. I know that your children will be disappointed to hear this, but I am sure that everybody understands the reasons behind this cancellation. Those of you affected will receive information with regards to refunds etc.....soon.

There are a number of other small day trips/events scheduled over the coming weeks and we will of course advise you nearer the time with regards to these. In the meantime, I can confirm that all sporting fixtures with other schools have been suspended until further notice. A number of our students also take part in extra-curricular clubs/activities, some of which take place here at the school. If this affects you, can I please ask that you contact the person running the club for updates and not the school, as they are responsible for making the decisions about their activities and if these will go ahead.

We will continue to do everything that we can to keep all of our students, staff and visitors as safe as possible by following the guidance around hygiene. Please remind your child(ren) to continue using the soap/sanitiser provided by the school with consideration for each other. We will also continue to do our very best to keep you updated as things change. We are planning to join a webinar tomorrow morning with the Director of Public Health for Herts County Council, which is being held for all Herts schools, where we will hopefully obtain further guidance. In the meantime, should you have any concerns/queries with regards to this matter, please feel free to contact either our Health & Safety Coordinator, Mr Chris Paice c.paice@marlborough.herts.sch.uk or our Director of Finances & Resources, Mrs Diana Dean d.dean@marlborough.herts.sch.uk

As always thank you for your continued support through this really difficult time.

Best wishes



Ms A Thomson
Headteacher