



HIGH STANDARDS, HIGH ASPIRATIONS, HIGH EXPECTATIONS

13th March 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

As the situation continues to change in relation to COVID-19 we would like to share with you our planning in relation to the updated government advice, and in relation to any future requirements for academy closure.

We can assure you that at the time of writing we still have no reported cases of any pupil or staff member diagnosed with COVID-19 in any of the Cabot Learning Federation academies. We are continuing to follow the advice of the UK Government and Public Health England and will **not** close unless directed to do so.

As you may be aware from the recent government announcements, the guidance around self-isolation has been changed. The guidance is now that anyone showing signs of *high fever* or *new persistent cough* should remain at home for 7 days but should **not** phone 111, visit their GP or go to Hospital unless you feel you cannot cope with your symptoms at home or your condition deteriorates. This may mean your child having to miss school; please **do** contact the Academy on the first day of absence if this is the case for your child. Please do note that the government is **not** requesting whole households to self-isolate if one member of the household has a persistent cough or a fever. *At some stage in the future this advice may change and should this be the case we will be sure to update you.*

We understand that you, or your child, may be feeling anxious about the impact of a possible future school closure on your child's learning, particularly if they are due to sit public exams this summer. Plans are in place to continue to support pupils and staff in the event of closure. These include contingencies should we need to close for a short period of time for a deep clean as well as for any longer term directed closures. We are also considering a variety of options involving partial closure – i.e the school open part time or for some year groups and not others – should we find ourselves in a position where we cannot safely and effectively run the Academy at full capacity because of staff absence in line with government guidance on self-isolation.

Should we need to close for a deep clean, or for any other reason, we will tell parents through our usual communication route advising both when the closure will take place and when children should return to school.

In the event of being directed to close, the academy will be ensuring pupils can access learning via online and physical resources where we are able to. We are currently collating information of all online learning sources we utilise in each year group along with what physical work we are hoping to provide if we are forced to close. We will share this information with students and parents/carers once collated.

How can you support your child(ren)?:

You can support your child by ensuring they have a note of passwords to their Microsoft 365 account and other online learning accounts. If you have any concerns regarding access to any of the above please contact your child's tutor in the first instance.





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Whilst we are sharing the above please be assured that there are no current indications that we will be closing. Please continue to ensure that your child attends schools as usual and follow the advice on our website should they become unwell.

We may need to contact you prior to, or during any period of school closure. It is vital that we have up to date telephone numbers, addresses and email addresses for each of our student's families. If you are in any doubt as to whether we have the correct information, please contact the Academy to update us.

In the meantime, links to the school website and the Department of Education helpline are provided below.

Thank you for your continued support of your child and of our school during this unusual time.

Yours faithfully

Cameron Shaw
Principal

The department for Education helpline to answer questions about COVID 19 related to education. Staff, parents and young people can contact the helpline as follows:

- Phone 0800 046 8687
- Email DfE.coronavirushelpline@education.gov.uk
- Opening hours 8am to 6pm (Monday to Friday)

The Academy website has a page dedicated to providing access to Public Health England advice, this is updated daily. We also have links to all knowledge organisers across each subject for each year group which would help parents know what students should be studying currently.

www.bristolmet.net

<https://www.clf.uk/coronavirus-advice/>