



HIGH STANDARDS, HIGH ASPIRATIONS, HIGH EXPECTATIONS

17th March 2020

Dear Parent / Carer,

Re: COVID-19 – changes to expectations upon families

Following the most recent government advice, we wanted to ensure that our families are aware of the position in our school and how our future plans may unfold.

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 Public Health England and will not close unless directed to do so.

Today the government requested that we all make changes to our lifestyles. These are as follows:

1. Everyone to stop non-essential contact with others and to stop all unnecessary travel
2. Anyone who has, or lives with someone who has **a continuous cough or a temperature of 38c or higher** should stay at home for **14 days**
3. The Government clarified and extended its definition of vulnerable groups to include:
 - Citizens over 70-years-old
 - Citizens with relevant underlying health conditions (more info to follow)
 - Pregnant women

From Monday next week the government are advising a period of social isolation for these groups of up to 12 weeks.

4. People should start working from home where they possibly can
5. Avoid pubs, clubs, theatres and other such social venues
6. Only use the NHS when we really need to, via online services if possible
7. From tomorrow government will no longer be "supporting" mass gatherings using emergency workers

This means that if your child has a new continuous cough or a high temperature, your whole family should stay at home for 14 days from when the condition developed. If your child is otherwise well, but a family member has a continuous cough or a high temperature, they **should not attend school for 14 days**.

You will not be penalised for this non-attendance at school, however we do ask that you **inform us directly of your need to isolate**. If your child has a relevant underlying health condition, you should be prepared to start a period of isolation for 12 weeks from next week. It is important to recognise that the NHS have said **they will contact you** to confirm if your or your child's condition fits the category of 'underlying condition' and they will do this from next Monday 23rd March. They also ask you to **not contact them** and to await the contact from NHS.





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We understand that you, or your child, may be feeling anxious about the impact of absence on their learning. We will shortly be posting a link and sending out details of online learning platforms we have been collating along with information about where distance learning work will be shared with students in the event of a full school closure.

It remains the case that plans are in place to continue to support pupils and staff in the event of a full or partial 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. Should we need to close we will tell parents through our usual communication route advising both when the closure will take place and when children should return to school.

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, where possible a quiet place to work in the home.

If you have any concerns regarding access to any of the above please contact your child's classroom teacher / tutor in the first instance.

Links to the website and the Department of Education helpline are below.

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.

www.bristolmet.net

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