

13th March 2020

Dear Parents, Carers and Pupils,

## **COVID-19 update**

I am writing with an update of my letter from earlier in the week, given the updated government advice.

As of today, **anyone** who has symptoms of coronavirus should self-isolate at home for seven days from when their symptoms started. This includes both children attending the school and whoever is with the child.

In addition, if pupils have a **new**, **sustained** dry cough or a fever (the NHS defines this as over **37.8** degrees), they should self-isolate for seven days.

We would like all parents and pupils to heed this advice to support us in our efforts to keep the community safe.

This step is designed to help protect vulnerable people, such as those with underlying health conditions and the elderly, from catching the virus.

People who are in self-isolation do not need to contact NHS 111, unless their symptoms worsen or have not improved after the seven days of isolation.

Should pupils be required to self-isolate, please follow usual procedures and pro-actively inform your child's school.

We know that our pupils and their parents and carers take school very seriously, and follow our usual guidance to attend school if they are unsure. In these unusual circumstances, we are asking that you follow the official guidance above and **keep your child off school if they display these symptoms.** 

We continue to monitor guidance daily. We have instigated additional cleaning procedures and will continue to update parents and pupils as things change.

As always, if you have any queries please do not hesitate to contact your child's school.

Very best wishes,

Stuart Lock **CEO, Advantage Schools** 

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