



**Leventhorpe**  
a business and enterprise academy

## **Coronavirus Update for Parents and Carers: 17<sup>th</sup> March 2020 Evening**

### **Temporary Suspension of Lessons in Year 12 on Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> March**

Dear Parents and Carers,

We are writing to you this evening to say that regrettably we will have to close a year group to teaching due to high levels of staff self-isolation. We also need to make some other matters known to you which have developed today.

#### Closure of Year 12 Due to Staff Absence - Temporary

We have had to take the step of temporarily suspending lessons for Year 12 tomorrow due to high levels of staff absence. We have chosen Year 12 since students are responsible enough to learn from home and are not facing an extensive exam season soon. We will ask staff to set work for Year 12 students as soon as they can in the day tomorrow. We will monitor the situation carefully and would want to welcome Year 12 back again on Thursday if staffing levels improve. We will message tomorrow evening about this.

Year 13 enrichment in period 5 has been cancelled tomorrow also, due to low staff levels, but we hope most other Year 13 lessons can run. Self-isolating teachers of Year 13 have been asked to set more detailed Year 13 work for students to do during the day.

#### Confirmation of a positive case of Covid-19

We have been notified that a pupil in the school has been diagnosed over the phone by NHS 111 as having contracted Coronavirus. The child has been away for a number of days, but may have been incubating the virus whilst at school at the end of last week. The school has been conducting an enhanced cleaning routine for the past month, but we must be realistic in assuming that transmission could have occurred. We have notified Public Health England and the local authority as required.

This news makes it all the more important that parents and carers help us to suppress the spread by not sending their child to school if they have any concerns that their child may be displaying any symptoms. We would ask you to note this message from this morning about self-isolation for pupils.

#### Symptoms in children and within the family – self-isolation

Public Health England have changed their advice to all members of the public that they should self-isolate for a period of at least 14 days should they show the symptoms of a fever/high temperature and/or a new persistent cough **or** if these symptoms are shown by people who live in their home. With this in mind, we urge all parents/carers to keep their children away from school for 14 days if they are concerned that their child might be displaying these symptoms **or** if anyone in their household has.

We recognise that this may represent a much higher proportion of children than earlier guidance.

#### Setting work for absent students

We are not usually in a position to set work for children who are self-isolating at home at the moment because teachers are still deployed teaching and covering classes for the children on site. If we move to a national position where schools close, we will move to an online education offer for all, but at present the school does not have the full capacity to do both things.

However, we now have a number of staff who are self-isolating and where these staff are teachers they have been asked to set enhanced homework activities through Show My Homework for sixth formers and students in year 7-11.

#### Water and hand-washing

We would like to remind all students about the importance of hand washing regularly for twenty seconds. We would also recommend that students bring a bottle of water from home to ensure they are properly hydrated. We also sell water, have water fountains and provide water beakers in the canteen.

#### Further information

We would like to remind you to look regularly at the government's advice on these matters, as this will include the most up to date guidance.

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/coronavirus-covid-19-information-for-the-public>

Thank you for your understanding on this matter and your support in this time of national difficulty

Yours sincerely,

Malcolm White