



13th March 2020

Dear Parents/Carers

Further to my last letter regarding guidance around the current Coronavirus (coVID-19) outbreak, and yesterday's government announcement, we thought it would be helpful to let you know that we have been busy planning and preparing for any potential disruption to our schools.

Firstly, we continue to receive daily updates from the Government and Public Health England, and we continue to follow their advice.

As a Trust of nine schools, we have been through our emergency plans and developed contingencies should we have to close schools due to either government instruction or due to staff absence. In the event of any closure, we would keep you all fully updated via all school websites, official social media sites, and via our parent texting service (where applicable).

The Trust has also increased significantly the cleaning of schools and, subject to availability, has made or is making provision for additional hand sanitiser to be available in classrooms and dining areas. We have spoken to all children about how to properly wash their hands, and we are promoting good hygiene around school.

We are monitoring all planned trips and making decisions on each individually, again following the latest guidance from the Government.

Yesterday the Government announced that schools will not be closing at the moment. Today, staff have been issued with guidance that they should remain at home for seven days if they have any symptoms, i.e a cough and/or high temperature. We would ask that you follow the same guidance with your child/children, i.e if they should remain at home for seven days if they have any of the above symptoms.

Should the decision about school closure change, be reassured that we have plans in place to provide work for your children. We will send out more information on how this will be done if the need arises.

I know this is a very difficult time, but I hope that this letter gives you some comfort that we are making the best possible preparations and, in the meantime, continue to operate as normal, welcoming your children to school each day.

Yours faithfully

Melanie Priestley
SMAT Chief Executive Officer

