

17th March 2020

Dear Parents /Carers,

Coronavirus Update

With things changing so quickly with Coronavirus, I wanted to send you the updated health advice and let you know what we are doing at INA to manage the situation.

The Government is now providing daily updates on the steps it is taking to help fight Coronavirus and has said that schools are to remain open. We will continue to follow this guidance and all information provided by the NHS.

So far, we do not have any confirmed cases of coronavirus in our school.

The health guidance was updated yesterday and now states that:

- The symptoms of the virus are a high temperature and/or a new continuous cough. Everyone living with someone showing symptoms of the virus must self-isolate for 14 days
- People should avoid unnecessary social contact including not visiting restaurants, pubs and theatres
- From the weekend, pregnant women, those over 70 and those with underlying health issues should limit social contact for 12 weeks
- All unnecessary travel should be limited, and people should work from home where they can.

If your child or anyone in your household has these symptoms, everyone in your home should stay at home for 14 days. Please let us know if your child/children will not be at school.

If your child has an underlying health condition that makes them more vulnerable to coronavirus, please let us know.

Information on the stay at home advice from Government is here -

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-stay-at-home-guidance>.

NHS guidance is here <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/>

We are postponing all large events at this time.



The health of our pupils and staff is our number one priority. Like all schools, we are also planning for a situation where we might need to close or partially close for a length of time. It is important that we are prepared for this possibility and we have plans in place to ensure that students can continue their education even when they are not at school.

We have made plans for the two main potential reasons why schools might have to close or partially close:

1. Staff absence
2. Instructions from Government that schools should close

If for either of the above reasons, our school had to close, we will:

- Text/send a letter to all parents/carers as soon as we know school has to close to give you as much notice as possible;
- Provide information on our website;
- Provide Home Learning for all year groups;
- In addition, we are currently in discussion about plans to provide access to food for students who receive Free School Meals.

While closure remains a worst-case scenario, I wanted to reassure you that we are planning appropriately for this. In the meantime, our school will remain open and continue to follow the official guidance being issued to all schools by the Government.

We will provide further updates as and when circumstance change. Thank you for your support and understanding at this challenging time.

Kind regards,

Ms Spencer
Interim Principal
Isaac Newton Academy