



Hertswood Academy

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Headteacher Peter Gillett BSc (Hons), PGCE, NPQH, MBA

16th March 2020

Dear Parent/Carer,

We are very grateful to all of our families and staff for their continued support in helping us to maintain a calm and measured approach to the Coronavirus situation. It remains challenging for schools to plan effectively as the situation changes daily.

As you probably heard on the news, anyone with a new dry cough or temperature should now isolate themselves for 7 days. We would be very grateful to parents for ensuring that if their children do exhibit these symptoms, they keep them at home and notify us of the absence in the normal way, clearly stating that their child is exhibiting these symptoms. This then allows us to monitor that the student abstains from school for the required period.

Schools have also been told that overseas trips must cease and it is with great regret that we have had to cancel a number of forthcoming overseas trips. We understand how disappointing this will be for students, but I am sure that many of you will feel relieved in the current climate that this decision has been taken.

At present, there is no instruction to schools to close and indeed we are not permitted to close unless instructed to by Public Health England and the DfE. In the event that government guidance changes and we are required to close the school, we will have a contingency plan in place which would allow the students to continue their learning at home as much as possible.

We have a number of events to which parents were invited this term. After careful consideration, we do not feel it appropriate to be inviting large numbers of external visitors onto the school site and therefore regretfully, we have postponed the upcoming Year 9 and Sixth Form parents' evenings. We will keep you updated with regard to future events.

Once again, thank you for your understanding and support of the school at this challenging time. Please do not hesitate to contact us if we can help with any further queries and your continued promotion of good hygiene would be very much appreciated. The latest guidance from the DfE can be found at the link below:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/guidance-to-educational-settings-about-covid-19/guidance-to-educational-settings-about-covid-19>

Yours faithfully

Peter Gillett
Headteacher

