

**MESSAGE: 17 MARCH 2020**

Dear parents / carers,

Please do not send your child in to school if you feel they have a cough or temperature. In addition, the main messages are:

- If you live alone and you have symptoms of coronavirus illness (COVID-19), however mild, stay at home for **7 days** from when your symptoms started.
- If you live with others and you or one of them have symptoms of coronavirus, then all household members must stay at home and not leave the house for **14 days**. The 14-day period starts from the day when the first person in the house became ill.
- It is likely that people living within a household will infect each other or be infected already. Staying at home for 14 days will greatly reduce the overall amount of infection the household could pass on to others in the community.
- For anyone in the household who starts displaying symptoms, they need to stay at home for 7 days from when the symptoms appeared, regardless of what day they are on in the original 14-day isolation period.

Following on from my letter dated Monday 16<sup>th</sup> March 2020 alongside the advice issued by the Government, we are continually reviewing our vulnerable student and staff list.

We have included the Government vulnerable category lists below.

If you consider your child to be placed on this list please follow the guidance given and inform the school should you decide that you will follow the social distancing measures for vulnerable people that are due to take effect from this weekend.

- Under 70 with an underlying health condition listed below (ie anyone instructed to get a flu jab as an adult each year on medical grounds)
- Chronic (long-term) respiratory diseases, such as asthma, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD), emphysema or bronchitis
- Chronic heart disease, such as heart failure
- Chronic kidney disease
- Chronic liver disease, such as hepatitis

- Chronic neurological conditions, such as Parkinson's disease, motor neurone disease, multiple sclerosis (MS), a learning disability or cerebral palsy
- Diabetes
- Problems with your spleen – for example, sickle cell disease or if you have had your spleen removed
- A weakened immune system as the result of conditions such as HIV and AIDS, or medicines such as steroid tablets or chemotherapy
- Being seriously overweight (a BMI of 40 or above)
- Those who are pregnant

We continue to monitor the situation to ensure the school remains a safe environment for all students and staff.

Please do not hesitate to contact the school should you have any questions or concerns.

Additionally, today we have set up a new email tab for parents who may have specific questions linked to this Coronavirus situation:

[StudentAbsence@bourneacademy.org](mailto:StudentAbsence@bourneacademy.org)

This is a dedicated email contact so that you can have a response as quickly as possible.

For all other questions please use the normal communication channels.

Finally, I can confirm that today we have carried out assemblies with all year groups to outline how / when work will be set for our students, just in case of the 'worst case scenario' and any necessary school closure. In case of the school needing to close in the future, the PowerPoint that has been shared with the students will be added to our website today so that parents can support our learners.

In these assemblies, as well as sharing the details for students to access work, it was also discussed that students may find this an anxious and worrying time, and we would ask for you to support your child and make contact with the school using the new email tab if you are particularly worried. The school will always remain open for communication to support families over safeguarding issues. In addition, there are websites to support students with their well-being at this time shared on our website.

I will provide any further updates as the situation changes for our schools.

Kind regards,

Lucy Conley

Executive Headteacher SLATrust