

13 March 2020

Year 12 and 13 students

Dear Student

Coronavirus – updated advice

Public Health England have announced new guidance for people with confirmed or possible infection from coronavirus. This means that:

- those with a new continuous cough and/or high temperature should not leave their house for 7 days from when the symptoms started
- anyone who has had exposure to a confirmed case of coronavirus should self-isolate for 14 days even if they have not shown symptoms
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The full guidance is available at <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-stay-at-home-guidance/stay-at-home-guidance-for-people-with-confirmed-or-possible-coronavirus-covid-19-infection>. **If you develop such symptoms and need to remain at home then please let us know and keep us updated.**

The guidance for helping prevent the spread of infection (of coronavirus and other viruses) includes a strong focus on hygiene.

- Washing hands with soap and hot water for 20 seconds at regular points during the day
- If you need to cough or sneeze: **Catch it** with a tissues, **Bin it, Kill it** by washing your hands

Please do follow this guidance in and out of school. Obviously, this means there has been an increase in the frequency of hand washing in school so if you discover any soap dispenser in school, which is empty or broken, please report it to a member of staff so this can be rectified promptly.

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On Monday, the Department for Education issued the following information concerning the forthcoming exam series:

"We recognise that students, parents, schools and colleges will be concerned about the possible impact of coronavirus on the 2020 summer exam series. Ofqual's advice at this time is to continue to prepare for exams and other assessments as normal. Ofqual continues to work closely with exam boards, other regulators and the Department for Education to plan for a range of scenarios, as the public would expect. Our overriding priorities are fairness to students this summer and keeping disruption to a minimum. It is still many weeks until exams start and we will issue updated advice if necessary, giving schools and colleges as much notice as possible."

Please be aware that, if you are involved in any exam over the summer series which has to be postponed, it could be arranged for any day in the exam period which runs up to and including 24 June 2020. It is therefore essential you are available for the full duration of the exam window. You are unlikely to be entitled to special consideration if you miss an exam under contingency arrangements.

Last week the DfE launched a new helpline to answer questions about coronavirus related to education. Staff, parents and students can contact the helpline as follows:

- * Phone: 0800 046 8687
- * Email: DfE.coronavirushelpline@education.gov.uk
- * Opening hours: 8am to 6pm (Monday to Friday)

Thank you for your support.

Yours faithfully

Roundhay School