

13/03/2020

Coronavirus

I am writing to provide a further update about the school's response to the coronavirus outbreak. I would like to reassure parents/guardians that staff across the Vanguard Learning Trust are working together to ensure our response remains in line with third-party advice.

What have school staff done to date?

The Department for Education (DfE) is sending daily updates including instructions and advice. The most recent communication remains that no school should close in response to a suspected or confirmed case of coronavirus unless directed to do so by Public Health England. The school's leadership team will continue to monitor the advice from the relevant authorities carefully and act on it as required.

Updates are being regularly given to staff to ensure that they are able to reassure students and provide advice as appropriate. Heads of Year and tutors have reiterated messages about personal hygiene to all students and specific guidance is displayed in prominent positions, including the school's digital signage. The premises team has made sure that antibacterial soap is available and the school's cleaning team is working incredibly hard to maintain a high standard of hygiene throughout the school.

What should parents/guardians do?

Parents/guardians should follow the advice that has been issued by Public Health England and the NHS. This is readily available via the following links:

www.gov.uk/coronavirus

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/coronavirus-covid-19-information-for-the-public>

With the forthcoming Easter holidays, it will be particularly important that any family members travelling abroad keep up to date with the Foreign and Commonwealth Office (FCO) advice about travel and the possible need to self-isolate on their return to the UK.

Should students be unable to attend school due to illness, parents/guardians should communicate the specific reason when reporting the absence, particularly if it is linked to potential coronavirus.

What might happen in the forthcoming coming weeks?

The senior leadership team will continue to take advice from Public Health England and any action will depend on the specific details of any individual cases, meaning that it is not possible to provide any definite information in advance. Speculation about individual cases and circumstances that could lead to school closure, full or partial, is unhelpful, and particularly unsettling for students. *Rest assured that we will keep you informed.*

Will school trips be affected?

Forthcoming school trips, particularly trips scheduled later in the term, are being considered on an individual basis and parents/guardians will be notified of any updates. Any planned trips into London will avoid using the London Underground and will travel by coach - this will increase the cost of these trips.

Are public examinations likely to be affected?

With regards to public examinations, any changes are likely to be at a national level and I will notify students and parents/guardians should such a situation arise. The latest advice the school has received is that students should continue to prepare for examinations and other assessments as normal. I would like to remind parents/guardians that all students sitting their SATS examinations this summer should be available from the date of their first examination: Monday 11 May 2020 through to Thursday 14 May 2020.

I will continue to monitor all guidance issued in relation to the coronavirus and will update parents/guardians later this week.

Coronavirus

Wash your hands with
soap and water more
often for 20 seconds



Palm to palm



The backs of hands



In between the fingers



The back of the fingers



The thumbs



The tips of the fingers

Use a tissue to turn off the tap.
Dry hands thoroughly.



The school continues to work closely with the Department for Education, the local authority and Public Health England. Current guidance is as follows:

No school should close in response to a suspected (or confirmed) COVID-19 case unless directed to do so by Public Health England.

Advice for parents/guardians

You should not be unduly worried about the possibility of your children catching the Coronavirus.

There is no reason why your children should not continue to attend their early years, school or further education setting as normal.

We recognise that some families or children may be planning to travel to China during the forthcoming half term period. If so, please refer to the FCO's latest travel advice via the link above.

What action can you take?

A UK wide campaign has been launched to provide clear advice on how to slow the spread of Coronavirus.

Please help to support the campaign which promotes basic hygiene practices, such as regularly washing hands for approximately 20 seconds and always sneezing into a tissue, to stem the spread of viruses.

Where to find the latest information

Updates on COVID-19: <https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus>

Guidance for educational settings:

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

Travel advice for those travelling and living overseas:

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/travel-advice-novel-coronavirus>



PLEASE TREAT HEAD LICE

All hair must be tied up. Please check your child/children's hair regularly as per leaflet sent out via email this week.

Uniform

Please ensure that your child is in the correct school uniform. We have noticed some individuals not conforming to the expectations applied to all pupils - NO nail extensions or dyed hair.

Parking

Please be respectful to all students and parents and do not park on the Zig Zag lines outside school.

STICK ON YOUR FRIDGE: DATES

Year 3 trip to the Science Museum - 17th March

Mothers Day Shop - 20th March

Spring Disco - 27th March

Unicorn Theatre Trip - Year 6 - Thursday 2nd April

End of Term - Friday 3rd April 2020

School finishes at 1.30pm **Infants**

School finishes at 1.35pm **Juniors**

Term Starts - Monday 20th April 2020

Nursery Closed - Polling station Thursday 7th May 2020

Bank Holiday - Friday 8th May 2020

Half Term - Monday 25th – Friday 29th May 2020

End of Term - Friday 17th July 2020

School finishes at 1.30pm **Infants**

School finishes at 1.35pm **Juniors**

