



12th March 2020

Dear Parents and Carers

Re: Covid 19 Contingency Planning in Case of School Closure

The Government is meeting today and the Prime Minister is likely to announce escalations to the UK's response to Coronavirus, one of which includes the possibility of temporary school closures. Should an announcement be made directing a school closure, you will be informed via text message, details will be placed on the school website and via our social media accounts (Twitter and Facebook).

- Staff will endeavour to set work using DODDLE and communicate via email.
- An earlier email (<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/CGSITAS>) was sent asking who had access to computers/the internet at home and we will be posting work to the students who are without access.
- As staff may be self-isolating, unwell or busy caring for their own families, priority will be given to Year 11 and Year 13 classes.
- Cox Green School site will be closed to all staff, parents, children and visitors except via explicit permission from myself.
- Any safeguarding issues should be raised in the usual way by contacting Ms Holli Blackburn on 07815 550156 or MASH Team at Achieving For Children on 01628 683150.
- Updates will continue to be provided using email, the website and social media.
- Students will be expected to follow the guidelines put in place by the Government regarding.

Raising Awareness

In tutor time and through assemblies we will continue to give sensible advice and guidance. Many students will have already had the opportunity to participate in a debate about the virus as part of the Tutor/PSHE programme this week.

Cleaning

As you will see from the notice on our website, we are ensuring that we are following all the advice from the DFE and Public Health England. Cleaning processes have been reviewed – all floors, surfaces, door handles and push points are being cleaned daily with antibacterial cleaner.

Students are reminded to wash their hands regularly and there is hand sanitiser at reception for parents and visitors, as well as handwashing facilities. There is soap and hot water available in all toilets around the school and supplies are checked regularly. Hand dryers with UV lights that keep the units clean are in all hand wash areas. As per Dept of Education and Public Health England advice students, staff and visitors should wash their hands:

- before leaving home;
- on arrival at school;
- after using the toilet;
- after breaks and sporting activities;
- before food preparation
- before eating any food, including snacks;
- before leaving school
- use an alcohol-based hand sanitiser that contains at least 60% alcohol if soap and water are not available

Please see letter from the Department for Education by [clicking here](#)

Year 11 and Year 13/14 Students

The current advice is for everyone to prepare for exams as normal. Ofqual and the other exam boards are working to manage any risks to this summer's exams as a result of the coronavirus.

Ofqual's statement can be found here: <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/our-statement-oncoronavirus>

School Trips

The advice from the DfE is to continue as normal, and our trips are planned to proceed unless there is any update from the DfE. We will keep you up to date with any changes, should school closures take effect as part of the Government strategy and there was a need to cancel trips.

Mental Health and Wellbeing

I would urge the school community to remain positive and calm: the current media furore and likely escalations are bound to cause concern within our community. I would request that we do not sensationalise or overdramatise this issue, and stick to facts.

We are open until we advise otherwise, continuing with "Business as Usual" and will keep you apprised of the latest information as soon as we have it.

Thank you for your continued support.

Yours sincerely

Frances Walsh