

16 March 2020

Dear Parent/Carer

I feel that it is appropriate, given recent developments both nationally and locally, to write to you about our ongoing approach to the international spread of the coronavirus (COVID-19).

We continue to follow all the appropriate guidelines from Public Health England and the guidance issued by the Department of Education with regard to how educational settings should handle the current situation. The guidance is updated daily and we will continue to post the links to this on our school website so that parents always have easy access to the most up to date information available.

We do not currently have any cases of COVID-19 within school and as such we remain open as per the guidance. We are conscious of the potential for the spread of the virus between pupils and as a result we have taken the decision to suspend all inter-school activities such as sporting fixtures until after the Easter break. We will also postpone

- the guided choices evening on 24 March,
- the Year 7 retreats to Castlerigg on 23 and 24 March
- the SALAD day on 26 March and all trips planned for this day.

In addition, we would highlight the Government guidance issued last week which is clear that pupils **must not** come into school for 7 days from the point at which they first show any sign of one or more of the following symptoms:

- a. Fever
- b. Dry cough
- c. Shortness of breath

If any of these symptoms are present or you are worried in any way that you or your child may have contracted coronavirus you should contact NHS 111 immediately to seek advice. Please then notify the school about the action you have been asked to take.

Hygiene of everyone attending school is something we all need to remain mindful of. Pupils are reminded regularly about the importance of hygiene and the need to wash hands. The daily cleaning routine in the school ensures that high contact areas, such as door handles, are disinfected regularly. All visitors to school must use the hand sanitiser on entry.

We will inform all parents/carers immediately if and when the situation changes. In the event of an enforced school closure we will notify you at that time of how we will continue to ensure pupils are working on appropriate material and being supported by staff. We will use Class Charts and email to keep in touch. Please find enclosed login details. In order to keep you informed we will be contacting you to ask you to confirm your phone number and email address.

Yours sincerely



John McAuley
Headteacher