Date: 13th March 2020

Dear Parent /Carer

**Coronavirus Update 2**

As the spread of coronavirus continues, the Multi Academy Trust remains vigilant to all the advice we receive from Public Health England and the DfE. We promised to keep you up to date with what we are doing to help keep your children safe.

So far we have;

* shared [guidance](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/guidance-to-educational-settings-about-covid-19/guidance-to-educational-settings-about-covid-19) from Public Health England with you and our staff’
* had deep cleans in February at each of our schools,
* prevented the spread of infection at each school by introducing hand washing often - with soap and water for at least 20 seconds (whilst singing),
* reminded children regularly to cover their cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in a bin
* developed a detailed action plan based on the most recent health and education advice.

As I write there are no confirmed cases in Stoke on Trent or our community, however we are aware that we cannot predict the spread of the virus and therefore have to remain vigilant. From today we will be;

* introducing extra cleaning of frequently touched objects and surfaces in our schools;
* introducing hand gels in entrance areas which visitors must use before entering the schools,
* introducing a quick questionnaire for all visitors to our schools
* risk assessing any activities we have planned.

As of today we feel that these measures are enough to ensure business continues as usual, **however I must stress that this could change at very short notice.**

Please ensure you read all texts from your child’s school and access the website for the latest information as this could change at short notice. We are eager to ensure that your child’s school life stays care free, however, in line with the advice we have received, we are making preparations in case the schools have to close. Please note that this would not be the Trust, or the Head teacher’s decision, but would be at the direction of Public Health England or the Government. Teachers are being asked to ensure they can create activities for children to do at home using online resources. You will receive a text message from the school via Teachers to Parents asking you to log on to parent pay to confirm if your child **DOES or** DOES **NOT** have access to a computer / internet enabled device. Can you please respond urgently so that we can plan accordingly and make alternative arrangements if necessary.

As a Trust we are trying to make our actions informed and proportionate so that we can continue to serve our children, families, staff and wider community well in these challenging times. For links to further advice and guidance please see overleaf.

Yours sincerely



Mrs Moran

Executive Principal

**Advice and Guidance**

**Government latest guidance:** <https://www.gov.uk/government/topical-events/coronavirus-covid-19-uk-government-response>

**Travel:** [**https://www.gov.uk/guidance/travel-advice-novel-coronavirus**](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/travel-advice-novel-coronavirus)

**Public Health England Q & A:** [**https://publichealthmatters.blog.gov.uk/2020/01/23/wuhan-novel-coronavirus-what-you-need-to-know/**](https://publichealthmatters.blog.gov.uk/2020/01/23/wuhan-novel-coronavirus-what-you-need-to-know/)

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