

Monday 16th March 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

RE: COVID-19 (coronavirus)

Whilst the school community continues to have no confirmed cases of coronavirus, we feel it necessary to write to you again to update you on how we are responding to the most recent government guidance.

As per previous advice, the most important thing individuals can do to protect themselves remains washing their hands more often, for at least 20 seconds, with soap and water. Make sure you cough or sneeze into a tissue, put it in a bin and wash your hands.

The government are now asking anyone who shows certain symptoms to self-isolate for 7 days, regardless of whether they have travelled to affected areas. This means they want people to stay at home and avoid all but essential contact with others for 7 days from the point of displaying mild symptoms to slow the spread of infection.

Individuals should self-isolate for 7 days if they have a high temperature (37.8 degrees or above) and/or a new continuous cough.

In response to this guidance, we would ask that if your child currently has or develops a cough and/or a high temperature that you keep them off school for seven days (5 school days) from the onset of these symptoms. You need to contact school on the first day of absence and we will mark your child as absent from school due to illness for the next 5 school days. You do not need to subsequently contact us daily to report the absence in these circumstances. If your child requires further time off after the initial week, please contact us to update us.

Absences for other reasons (not caused by a temperature or a cough) should continue to be reported on a daily basis and learners should return to school as soon as they are well enough.

The government have advised that you do not need to call NHS 111 to go into self-isolation. If your symptoms worsen during home isolation or are no better after 7 days contact NHS 111 online at 111.nhs.uk. If you have no internet access, you should call NHS 111. For a medical emergency dial 999.

Clearly we would also ask that families keep us informed if there are any circumstances that we need to be aware of relating to their child or themselves so we can take the appropriate advice and action as required.

You will also find plenty of advice and guidance online at: www.111.nhs.uk/covid-19, www.nhs.uk/coronavirus and <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/coronavirus-covid-19-information-for-the-public>.

Longdendale High School Spring Street, Hollingworth, Hyde, Cheshire, SK14 8LW **Headteacher:** Mrs A. Jones **CEO:** Mr M. Bowler
e: admin@lhs.aspireplus.org.uk **t:** 01457 764006 **f:** 01457 766483 **w:** www.longdendalehighschool.org.uk



Longdendale

H I G H S C H O O L

In response to further advice we have taken the decision to limit the number of visitors to school during this period. Consequently, the Year 10 parents' evening planned for this Thursday (19th March) and the Apprenticeship Event on the same day have both been postponed. We have also asked all staff to consider whether contact with families can be held over the telephone rather than face to face meetings, and we would welcome your support with this wherever possible.

In order to ensure that we are able to keep all of our families up to date with any information or guidance in the coming weeks, please can you check that all of your contact details are accurate via the INSIGHT service accessible on the school website using the owl symbol. Please make any alterations directly onto INSIGHT through the General then Personal Details tabs. If you have forgotten your password, there is an option to reset this through the forgotten password link.

Please be assured that we are continuing to monitor the situation closely and we will update you with any further information as it becomes available. In the meantime, please do not hesitate to contact school if you have any queries or concerns.

Yours sincerely,

Andrea Jones
Headteacher

Longdendale High School Spring Street, Hollingworth, Hyde, Cheshire, SK14 8LW **Headteacher:** Mrs A. Jones **CEO:** Mr M. Bowler
e: admin@lhs.aspireplus.org.uk **t:** 01457 764006 **f:** 01457 766483 **w:** www.longdendalehighschool.org.uk

