

**COVID - 19 Unity Academy Daily Bulletin**  
**17th March 2020**

These are unprecedented times where the academy is relying on daily guidance from the Government, this guidance changes regularly and often this published information lags behind information in the press. This daily bulletin intends to keep all stakeholders as up to date as possible given the information we have and the fast moving situation.

**Confirmed Cases at Unity Academy**

Further to the letter published yesterday, Public Health England have written to the school to confirm that they are not aware of any children or staff linked to the academy who have tested positive for COVID-19.

We are aware of children and staff who are following government guidelines to self isolate. In response to the Prime Minister's announcement on 16th March 2020, a number of staff are self isolating with family members for 14 days at least and we expect this number to rise rapidly.

**Cleaning**

A deep cleaning regime following guidance issued by Public Health England has been in place for some time and will continue. Cleaning staff are taking additional precautions to protect themselves and door handles and surfaces are being cleaned regularly throughout the day.

As Public Health England have **not** confirmed any cases, government advice is **not** to close schools for deep cleaning.

**Children and staff who present at school with COVID-19 symptoms**

Any children who present in school with the symptoms of COVID-19 will need to go home, we will move children to a separate, ventilated room, whilst we await a parent/carer coming to pick them up. Should any child display the symptoms, government guidance is that they **and anyone who lives with them** should self isolate for 14 days. Self isolating is recorded as a Y code in school attendance systems and will not impact on attendance for children.

Staff who present with symptoms will be asked to follow the same advice and asked to go home immediately where they **and anyone who lives with them** should self isolate for 14 days. Government guidance does not, **at this stage**, indicate that any children who have been taught by the member of staff should self isolate.

## **School Closure**

At this present time, Public Health England and Government have not asked schools to close, at this point guidance indicates that should a confirmed case be linked to the school, the instruction to close would **not** be automatically issued.

Staff absences have led to the decision to close Unity Academy for all students except those in years 5, 6 and 11 from tomorrow - Wednesday 18th March 2020. This is until further notice and information will only ever be provided about this via a letter from the academy, published on the website.

## **Staff with underlying health conditions and those who are pregnant**

Further information will be provided to staff today as to the next steps for them.

## **Visitors**

We are taking every step to minimise the number of visitors to the school and notices are clearly displayed on doors asking those with symptoms to not enter the building.