



THE WESTLEIGH SCHOOL

Aspiring & Achieving Together

HEADTEACHER: MR CARLTON BRAMWELL *BEd (Hons), MSc, NPQH*



16th March 2020

Dear Parents and Families,

In light of the ongoing situation with the coronavirus, I wanted to write to you directly about the issues that this has raised for our school and our community. Following updated Government guidance, we wish to reassure our parents/carers that we will continue to follow advice and recommendations from Public Health England and the Government to prioritise the safety of our school community.

As announced by the Prime Minister last week, there are no plans currently to 'blanket' close schools. It is clear however that this is being considered, and we are putting plans in place to ensure that our students can continue to learn and that we can work with you to keep them safe in the event that this happens. Please be reassured that we are continually taking preventative measures in school and the following measures will be in place from today (Monday 16th March) until further notice.

- All school assemblies are cancelled
- School enrichment opportunities are cancelled
- All sports fixtures are cancelled
- We are continuing to remind students to wash hands regularly using soap.
- If the government does take the decision to partly or fully close schools, rest assured that teachers are preparing 'home learning materials' to support students

With regards to making our school site as safe as possible, we have had our site team completing an ongoing deep clean of our school for the last few weeks, with particular focus on keeping door handles, tables and other surfaces clean, as well as water dispensers and toilets. Our students need to be praised for their commitment to, not only washing their hands given how often we are refilling the soap dispensers, but their desire to understand what they can do to help other people keep safe both in school and within the local community.

Further information is available from

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/coronavirus-covid-19-information-for-the-public>

Department for Education Coronavirus helpline

The Department for Education has launched a new helpline to answer questions about COVID-19 related to education. Staff, parents and young people can contact the helpline as follows: Phone: 0800 046 8687 Email: DfE.coronavirushelpline@education.gov.uk Opening hours: 8am to 6pm (Monday to Friday)

We are continuing to follow advice from the Local Authority and the Government and we hope that parents/carers fully support and understand our decisions. Please ensure you continue to keep checking the school website and social media regarding any updates on the current situation and the impact on school.

We are certainly in a period of significant challenge, and I want all our families to be assured that we are here to support you and your family.

Yours sincerely,

Carlton Bramwell
Headteacher

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