

Friday 13th March 2020

Dear Parent / Carer,

Coronavirus - self-isolation and student absence

As you will be aware, we take attendance very seriously and expect all of our students to be in the Academy every day. We are resolute in this commitment and usually ask that students attend the Academy even if they have minor illness such as a cold, headache or sniffles.

Given the new directive from PHE yesterday, I just want to clarify the situation regarding self-isolation and student absence. These are the key points:

- if your child has mild symptoms of the virus (a new and persistent cough, and / or a fever), you need to keep them at home and they need to self-isolate for 7 days. Symptoms such as sneezing and a runny nose are not symptoms of the virus so if your child has these (and feels well enough) they should come into school as normal
- if your child has been in close and direct contact with someone who has tested positive for the virus, you need to keep them at home and they need to self-isolate for 14 days. This is only the case if the person has tested positive for the virus not if they suspect they may have the virus
- if your child has tested positive for the virus, you need to keep them at home until all the symptoms have gone and they have fully recovered

The usual procedures for reporting your child's absence applies.

If you have any questions about this, please do not hesitate to contact me or your child's Head of Year.

Yours Sincerely,



Bernie Whittle
Vice Principal - Inclusion