

MANOR

CHURCH OF ENGLAND ACADEMY, YORK

Established 1812 • Principal: Mr Simon Barber, MA



16/03/2020

Dear Parents/Carers

I feel that it is appropriate given recent developments both nationally and locally, to write to you about our ongoing approach to the international spread of the Coronavirus, Covid19.

We continue to follow all the appropriate guidelines from Public Health England and the guidance issued by the Department of Education with regard to how educational settings should handle the current situation. The guidance is updated daily and we will continue to communicate this to parents on our school website and social media sites (Twitter and Facebook). This is so that parents always have easy access to the most up to date information available.

We do not currently have any confirmed cases of Covid19 within school and as such we remain open as per the guidance. The risk to any students or staff is classed as low. We would like to highlight the Government guidance issued recently which states that students **should not** come into school for 7 days from the point at which they first show any sign of **one or more** of the following symptoms:

- a) Fever
- b) Persistent dry cough
- c) Shortness of breath

Regular handwashing remains the most effective way of avoiding picking up any virus. Our toilets are checked several times a day to ensure that there is adequate soap, and hand sanitiser is distributed throughout the school for students to use. We will continue to encourage them to use it appropriately when needed. Please talk to your children about the importance of regular handwashing. The daily cleaning routine in the school ensures that high contact areas, such as door handles and bannisters, are disinfected regularly.

We have also emphasised through assemblies this morning the importance of catching a sneeze or cough in a tissue, putting the tissue in a bin and washing hands afterwards. The slogan catch it, bin it, kill it is a good way of reminding them how to stop passing on their germs to others. Please help us emphasise this message at home too.

You will have seen the steps taken by other countries to delay the spread of the virus with school closures being a key part of this strategy. In the event of an enforced school closure we will notify you at that time about how we will continue to ensure students have access to work they can get on with at home.

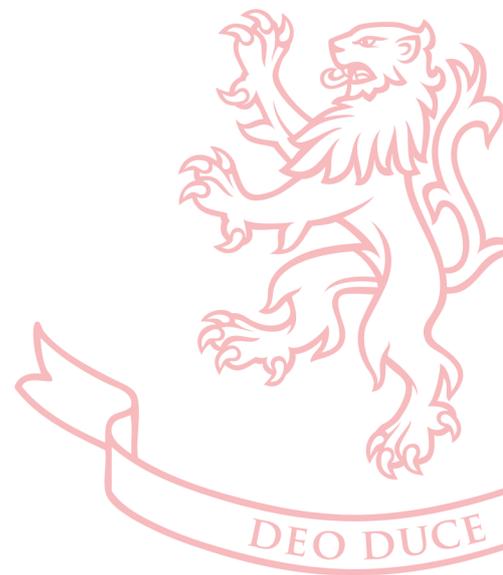
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If you live in a location where your child would be unable to access the internet, please can you inform us as soon as possible so that we can include that information in our ongoing planning should a school closure be required by the government.

As you will appreciate we are reviewing all school events in the light of this health crisis and as a result we have decided to postpone the Year 9 parents evening until a later date. The date of the rearranged evening will be communicated to parents once we have more information.

I am very aware that this is a worrying time for everyone, particularly for our year 11 students preparing for their GCSEs. Please be assured that we will keep updating you all with information as we receive it and that we will do all we can to minimise the disruption to education.

Yours sincerely

Mr S. Barber
Principal