



Monday 02 March 2020

Information for Parents/Carers: Coronavirus (COVID-19)

Whilst we do not have any confirmed or suspected cases of Coronavirus (COVID-19), this document is to advise you of the good practice measures we are taking to minimise potential risk to both students and staff.

Coronavirus is a type of virus that can cause mild respiratory or flu like symptoms. As with flu, older people, and those with pre-existing medical conditions (such as asthma, diabetes, and heart disease), are more vulnerable to becoming severely ill with the virus. As you may be aware, there is now a new coronavirus called Covid-19, which has been the cause of the current outbreak centred on China and other isolated areas around the world.

We have implemented a mandatory clearance protocol, which applies to any staff member or student (including a staff member/student with a close family member or friend) who has returned to the UK in the past 14 days after travelling within, or transiting through an affected area categorised as:

- **High Risk;** and/or a
- **Specified Affected Area**

This protocol is based upon Public Health information, and ensures appropriate steps are taken in the case of potential exposure to the virus.

It is important that students do not attend any college delivery sites or any healthcare setting if there is a risk that they could spread the virus. Unless an emergency requires them to dial 999, the NHS advice is do not go to a GP surgery, pharmacy or hospital. Call [111](tel:111), stay indoors and avoid close contact with other people.

We strongly advise against travel to High Risk or Specified Affected Areas. However, if you or your young person are planning to travel to any of these countries in the coming weeks or months, please contact a member of our Safeguarding Team. Please be aware that your young person must not return to college afterwards until they have made a telephone call to Safeguarding Team for clearance.

Please do ensure that you look at the most up to date advice from the foreign office <https://www.gov.uk/foreign-travel-advice>



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In addition to the above, we are following the guidance issued by Public Health England and the Department for Education in relation to hand washing and other hygiene practises. We will be:

- placing alcohol-based hand rub across our college campuses in locations such as reception, refectories and student services.
- ensuring the provision of anti-bacterial soap in toilets and washrooms.
- providing an increased supply of boxes of tissues across our college campuses in locations such as reception, refectories and student services
- sharing information with students through their tutorial sessions
- providing updates via staff and student email, our website and our social media channels.

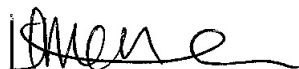
Please be rest assured that the welfare of our students and staff is paramount.

A map of countries and specified areas affected by COVID-19 with implications for returning travellers or visitors arriving in the UK can be found [here](#).

Public Health England Guidance can be found [here](#).

Department for Education Guidance can be found [here](#).

If you have any concerns, please contact your young person's Student Progress and Development Tutor.



Vikkie Morton
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