

16th March 2020

Dear Parents/Carers

Re: Coronavirus Update

I am writing to you again about our ongoing approach in Magna Learning Partnership academies 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 post the links to this on our Trust and school/college websites so that parents always have easy access to the most up to date information available.

Health advice

We do not currently have any confirmed cases of Covid19 within any of the schools and college and we remain open as per the guidance with the risk to students and staff classed as low. Hygiene is key to managing the risk. Our toilets are checked several times a day to ensure that there is adequate soap available for students to use and we would continue to encourage them to use it appropriately when needed. The daily cleaning routine in the school ensures that high contact areas, such as door handles, are disinfected regularly.

In addition, we would highlight the Government guidance issued late last week which is clear that students **must 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) Dry cough
- c) Shortness of breath.

School trips

The government advice on overseas school trips has been updated; as a result all overseas trips are cancelled until further notice. We will now consider whether it is feasible for any of the cancelled trips to be re-scheduled. Where this is not possible we will do our best to arrange refunds. Trip leaders will be contacting all those families affected as soon as we can.

The current advice from the government is that school trips in this country can go ahead; we will aim for business as usual but make decisions regarding individual activities and visits on a case by case basis. It may be that difficulties with staffing a trip will result in cancellation.

Access to learning

The schools and college are making their own arrangements to ensure that learning can continue when a child or young person is absent. In most cases, work will be set on line via 'Show my Homework/Google Classroom' or the school portal or website. If your child is unable to have access to online learning then you will need to let us know so that a pack of work can be prepared. In the meantime, you can help us by ensuring that your son or daughter has a space to work at home and that they have their books and learning materials with them at the end of every day.

Possible partial and full closure

Each Headteacher and Principal is monitoring the situation closely regarding staff absence. If a school or the college reaches a point where there are a significant number of staff absent owing to self-isolation or illness, we will make a decision about closing for specific classes or year groups for a day or more. We will make Year 6, 11 and 13 pupils and students a priority, ensuring that they can remain in school or college with full access to learning if at all possible.

We will inform all parents immediately if and when the situation changes. A full school closure is possible in the coming weeks but we will obviously wait until we are advised by the government.

In the meantime we have made the decision to minimise visitors to the schools and college. This is likely to mean the postponement of some parents' evenings in the next few weeks or alternative arrangements made via phone calls and emails. If you have a face to face meeting scheduled in the next three weeks please contact the appropriate person in advance to make alternative arrangements.

Finally, as information is altering by the day, we will update you as swiftly as we can. Please do not hesitate to contact us via icarley@magnalearningpartnership.org.uk should you have any queries.

Yours sincerely



Sarah Busby
Chief Executive Officer