

12<sup>th</sup> March 2020

Dear Parents/ Carers,

**Re: Coronavirus Update**

I wanted to write to assure you that the Trust is following the latest advice from Public Health England (PHE) and the Department for Education, to ensure the health and wellbeing of all our Trust school communities, which is, as always our top priority.

We are keeping the situation under constant review and you can expect your Headteachers to get in touch with parents and carers should advice change. We will use your schools website to post Trust update-messages along with specific school information about how your child's school intends to deliver continuous education and support your child's education in the event of school closure.

The Department for Education have set up a helpline that is now available to answer questions about COVID-19 relating to education and children's social care. Staff, parents and young people can contact this helpline as follows:

**Phone:** 0800 046 8687

**Email:** [DfE.coronavirushelpline@education.gov.uk](mailto:DfE.coronavirushelpline@education.gov.uk)

**Opening hours:** 8am to 6pm (Monday to Friday)

The advice remains that no school should close in response to a suspected (or confirmed) COVID-19 case unless advised to do by Public Health England.

Finally, the best way to tackle the challenge posed by Coronavirus is by following public health authorities' advice, for example on hand washing, and reducing the impact and spread of misinformation by relying on information from trusted sources, such as that on <http://www.nhs.uk> and <https://www.gov.uk/>.

We appreciate this is an uncertain time for everyone but please be reassured that the Trust will do all it can to minimise any impact. If you have any concerns please talk to your Headteacher immediately.

Yours sincerely,

Jenn Plews  
Chief Executive Officer