



John Whiteneed | Headteacher

The Forest High School,
Causeway Road,
Cinderford,
Gloucestershire
GL14 2AZ

T: 01594 822257

E: info@foresthigh.org.uk

www.foresthigh.org.uk

Dear Parents/Carers,

13 March 2020

You may have heard the Prime Minister's press conference yesterday announcing that we are moving to the 'delay' stage of the Covid-19 pandemic.

Whilst not ruling this out at a later date, the current situation is that all education settings are to remain open unless advised otherwise.

There are additional measures however that we will be monitoring, alongside the clear guidance on hygiene that you have seen before and which remains paramount:

1. If students or staff members have any symptoms that potentially indicate the virus, particularly including a new, dry cough or a high temperature then they are now asked to self-isolate for 7 days. Clear guidance on what symptoms to look for and what actions to take can be found here: <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/>.
2. Please ensure that you inform us at the earliest opportunity if this is the case. Should your son/daughter need to self-isolate, he/she will not be penalised from the point of view of his/her attendance.
3. The government now advises against all overseas education trips for children under 18; anyone this affects should speak to the Head Teacher immediately. The Department for Education is not currently advising against domestic trips but we must, of course, ensure that our risk assessments take into account the latest health advice and ensure measures are in place and agreed with parents/carers in case children or adult supervisors believe they have been exposed to COVID-19 and exhibit symptoms that require self-isolation.

4. We have been planning for a potential shut-down period, or for more staff and learners to be self-isolating and needing to communicate electronically and work remotely. Please contact us if you have any questions about this.

This is obviously a very concerning and challenging situation for all of us, but I have no doubt that we will all support each other well through this worrying time. If you have any concerns, please contact us at school.

I would like to thank you all for your continued support during this unprecedented time.

The following links provide daily factual updates, and should be consulted in preference to social media for the right guidance!

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/guidance-to-educational-settings-about-covid-19/guidance-to-educational-settings-about-covid-19>

<https://www.gov.uk/government/topical-events/coronavirus-covid-19-uk-government-response>

Yours faithfully,

John Whitehead
Head Teacher