

4th March 2020

Dear Parents/ Carers,

You will be aware that information about the Coronavirus is being updated on a daily basis and we are monitoring the advice and guidance of the Department for Education as well as information on the NHS website, regularly. At present the advice is that no school should close in response to a suspected (or confirmed) COVID-19 case unless advised to do so by Public Health England.

There are clear guidelines for schools and we will continue to follow these; in the event of any increase in risk or suspected case of infection, the recommended course of action is set out very clearly in the guidance to schools and will be followed. We shall keep you informed of any further change to advice and will keep you updated on any actions taken.

There is a new Department for Education Coronavirus helpline to answer questions about COVID-19 related to education. Staff, parents and young people can contact the helpline as follows:

- Phone: 0800 046 8687
- Email: DfE.coronavirushelpline@education.gov.uk
- Opening hours: 8am to 6pm (Monday to Friday)

Within our schools, staff are reminding students about the importance of hygiene, particularly with regard to increasing regular handwashing, covering the mouth and nose when coughing or sneezing, using and disposing of tissues as well as avoiding close contact with people who are unwell. We have also adjusted the cleaning schedules to focus on deep cleaning of priority surfaces.

If you have any questions about any scheduled school-specific activities or trips, please contact your child's school directly. Similarly, if you, or your son/ daughter has recently travelled back from any of the countries currently identified as being at risk, including northern Italy, please contact the school so that we are able to support you and ensure that any communication to other families is accurate and helpful.

Kind regards



Mrs C.M. Brooker
CEO, Arété Learning Trust

*"Being the best we can be by uniting schools,
communities and families, to secure success
for all young people"*

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