

# Coronavirus Q&A for Parents (17/03/2020)



## **How will the school keep me informed?**

*We will use the website as our main point of information. Any updates will be prompted by TEXT/APP message.*

*We ask that you regularly check our website for updates.*

## **Will the school close?**

*The academy will remain open until the government either to tell us to close or it is operationally unsafe to stay open.*

*A partial closure may be considered if circumstances necessitate it.*

## **Will the school tell parents to keep their child at home?**

*We encourage parents to be responsible in their decision making and consult the guidance available in making their choices.*

*Parents will be expected to keep their child at home if*

- *your child has had a confirmed diagnosis*
- *your child has been in contact with someone who has had a confirmed diagnosis*
- *there are reported symptoms that require self-isolation or*
- *other members of the family are in self-isolation*

*We also urge you to consider your position should your child has underlying medical conditions.*

*Should a child come to school with symptoms we will seek to send them home.*

## **Under what circumstances should I keep my child at home i.e. self –isolate?**

*If your child has a new continuous cough/and or fever, alongside government advice, our advice is to self-isolate for 14 days (updated 16/03/20).*

*If your child has some symptoms but you are unsure what to do we advise that you seek medical attention or consult the guidance available online – particularly the 111 online tool.*

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/>

and

<https://111.nhs.uk/service/COVID-19/>

## **Should we self-isolate if other members of my family are self- isolating?**

*Yes, as from 16/03/2020 the advice is to isolate as a family for 14 days.*

<https://111.nhs.uk/service/COVID-19/>

## **Does self-isolating mean to simply stay away from school or work?**

*No, the expectations around self-isolation are very clear and can be found at:*

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-stay-at-home-guidance>

and

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/self-isolation-advice/>

*We ask that families use a common sense approach with consideration to the community in this decision making.*

**Can I choose to self-isolate my child for less than the 14 days?**

*If you are going to self-isolate you must isolate for the required 14 days, even if symptoms subside or reduce. We will seek to send home those who, according to our records, have not done this.*

**What if I choose not to keep my child at home, i.e. not to self-isolate even though 111 advise that I should?**

*In this case you are putting others at risk. If symptoms are displayed in school we will seek to send your child home.*

**What will happen if a child becomes unwell at school?**

*Our sickness routines remain the same, but we are monitoring our vulnerable groups more closely. If anyone displays associated symptoms i.e. a new continuous cough/and or fever, we will seek to send them home.*

**If I do decide to keep my child off – how will the absence be recorded?**

*The absence will be recorded as an authorised absence at this stage. Parents should report if their child is off due to self- isolation as this is recorded differently.*

**If I decide to keep my child off school will work be provided?**

*The academy has a range of online resources available for pupils to access should they be well enough. These can be found on our website (see <https://www.hawes-side.co.uk/our-classes/pupil-links>) Should the academy need to close for an extended period of time work of greater depth will be provided.*

**Will school activities continue as normal?**

*We are closely monitoring the guidance and what is happening in the academy to make decisions as to whether some activities should be cancelled or changed. We will keep you up to date in relation to these as decisions are made. Given the advice of 16/03/2020 we will be cancelling the following until Easter.*

- *Y6 visits to nursery*
- *Family Assemblies*
- *Extra-curricular clubs e.g. drama/ taekwondo / Music services/ Art club/*
- *Swimming*
- *Cookery*
- *Creepy Crawley roadshow*
- *Easter Bingo*
- *Community Café*
- *Choir events*

**If my child is off will I have to still pay Out of School Club fees?**

*Unfortunately, while the academy remains open we will continue to offer and staff these clubs. As such normal practice around charging will continue. Should the school close, however, charges will not be levied.*

**My child has Asthma, is there any special guidance?**

*There is no special guidance, as of yet, however, we urge all parents to consider whether you feel your child should be in school. Should your child remain in school please ensure that you are vigilant in ensuring that*

*they have an up to date inhaler in school. Our staff will also endeavour to inform you when new inhalers are needed.*

**Will the academy continue to provide school meals?**

*We will endeavour to continue with our usual services for as long as we can. Should we find ourselves in a position where we cannot offer our usual service, our first option will be to limit the menu. As a last resort we may only be able to offer meals to those who are entitled to a free school meal and we will let you know as soon as possible if this is the case by TEXT.*