



Aston Academy

Specialising in Maths & Computing

Principal
Dominic Curran BA (Hons), PGCE

Assistant Principal:
Lindsey Burgin BA (Hons), PGCE, MA

Assistant Principal:
Farouk Gossiel BSc (Hons), PGCE

ACET Chief Executive Officer:
Eunice Newton BEd, BA, MSc

Aughton Road
Swallownest
Sheffield
S26 4SF
Tel: 0114 2872171
Fax: 0114 2876359
E-Mail: info@astonacademy.org
Web: www.astonacademy.org



16th March 2020

Dear Parent/Carer

Given the current situation with regard to coronavirus, we would like to provide you with an update on action being taken within the Academy. Please be assured that we are adhering closely to the guidance for education settings provided by the Department of Education and Public Health England.

The most important thing that individuals can do to protect themselves is to wash their hands, for at least 20 seconds, with soap and water. Public Health England recommends that in addition to handwashing before eating, and after coughing and sneezing, hands should also be washed after using toilets and travelling on public transport. During tutor time and assemblies this week, we will be reinforcing these messages with students. All toilet facilities are being checked regularly each day to ensure that there are ample supplies of soap available.

You will be aware that, to support the delay of the spread of the virus, the government has asked anyone who shows certain symptoms to stay at home and self-isolate for 7 days, regardless of whether they have travelled to affected areas.

This means that students should stay at home if they are unwell with a new, continuous cough or a high temperature to avoid spreading infection to others. Otherwise, they should attend school as normal.

Please could we ask you to use the normal procedures for reporting student absence by telephoning school on the first day of absence.

Schools have also been advised that, if students become unwell on site with a new, continuous cough or a high temperature, that they should be sent home. We will, of course, contact you directly should this be the case.

You do not need to call NHS 111 to self-isolate. If symptoms worsen or are no better after 7 days contact NHS 111 online at 111.nhs.uk. If you have no internet access, you should call NHS 111. For a medical emergency dial 999.

In light of current guidance from the Department of Education, we are in touch with ABTA and the School Travel Forum regarding trips abroad and are in close contact with our travel companies and insurers regarding any planned international trips that were scheduled to take place this academic year.



All adults in school have a responsibility to safeguard and promote the welfare of children.

Current national school travel guidance includes the following

- The government has advised schools that they should not undertake international school trips at this stage. This is due to concerns that the schools would face significant challenges in making arrangements to ensure children's welfare should adult supervisors or children be required to self-isolate. If schools do cancel their trips, normal cancellation terms will apply.
- The government is not currently advising schools to stop trips within the UK; schools can therefore proceed as planned with these if they wish. The government is advising schools to refresh their risk assessments. Customers wishing to cancel must do so at their own risk and normal cancellation charges will apply.

We will be keeping parents/carers updated regarding any planned trips that were scheduled to take place between March and July this academic year. Where trips have been cancelled, we will be seeking the advice and guidance of travel companies and our insurers regarding any potential reimbursement of costs. We will ensure that parents/carers and students are fully aware of any decisions as they are taken. If you have any questions regarding the cancellation of a trip including any potential reimbursement of costs, please contact our finance team, using the contact details at the top of this letter.

We will keep you fully informed regarding any further developments and changes to government guidelines with regard to coronavirus which may have a bearing on our response within school.

Yours faithfully,

Dominic Curran

Principal