

17 March 2020

Dear parents and carers

**Re: Coronavirus**

As of today there are no confirmed cases of the COVID-19 virus at Caludon Castle. Student absence yesterday was very similar to the same time last year, although this is a changing picture.

However, we are being very vigilant and, following yesterday's news, any student with a new continuous cough or high temperature will be sent home.

The guidance for schools is that staff, young people and children should stay at home if they are unwell with a new, continuous cough, or high temperature, to avoid spreading infection to others. Otherwise, at present, students can attend school as normal.

The school cleaning team have increased their cleaning regime and are cleaning and disinfecting regularly touched areas.

We are reminding students and staff about the importance of personal hygiene and posters are distributed around the school to signal this.

Until further notice, all trips and assemblies have been suspended as well as non-essential events, including those after school. Communication regarding specific trips will follow soon.

To date, we have received no advice and guidance regarding the summer examinations for GCSE and A level students, but will keep you updated as soon as we are notified.

Please find below the latest "Stay at home" guidance from gov.uk.

*For most people, coronavirus (COVID-19) will be a mild illness.*

### Main messages

- if you live alone and you have symptoms of coronavirus illness (COVID-19), however mild, stay at home for **7 days** from when your symptoms started. (See [ending isolation](#) section below for more information)
- if you live with others and you or one of them have symptoms of coronavirus, then all household members must stay at home and not leave the house for **14 days**. The 14-day period starts from the day when the first person in the house became ill
- it is likely that people living within a household will infect each other or be infected already. Staying at home for 14 days will greatly reduce the overall amount of infection the household could pass on to others in the community
- for anyone in the household who starts displaying symptoms, they need to stay at home for 7 days from when the symptoms appeared, regardless of what day they are on in the original 14 day isolation period. (See [ending isolation](#) section below for more information)



Headteacher  
**Mrs M Marr**



- if you can, move any vulnerable individuals (such as the elderly and those with underlying health conditions) out of your home, to stay with friends or family for the duration of the home isolation period
- if you cannot move vulnerable people out of your home, stay away from them as much as possible
- if you have coronavirus symptoms:
  - do **not** go to a GP surgery, pharmacy or hospital
  - you do not need to contact 111 to tell them you're staying at home
  - testing for coronavirus is not needed if you're staying at home
- plan ahead and ask others for help to ensure that you can successfully stay at home and consider what can be done for vulnerable people in the household
- ask your employer, friends and family to help you to get the things you need to stay at home
- wash your hands regularly for 20 seconds, each time using soap and water, or use hand sanitiser
- if you feel you cannot cope with your symptoms at home, or your condition gets worse, or your symptoms do not get better after 7 days, then use the [NHS 111 online](#) coronavirus service. If you do not have internet access, call NHS 111. For a medical emergency dial 999

#### **Who this guidance is for**

*This advice is intended for:*

- people with symptoms that may be caused by coronavirus, and do not require hospital treatment, who must remain at home until they are well
- those living in households with someone who shows symptoms that may be caused by coronavirus

Should it be necessary to partially close or close the school completely, we will do this through sending a text and notification on our school website.

Can I thank you all for your support and vigilance during this very challenging time. I have been so impressed by our staff and students who have gone the extra mile to maintain a normal learning environment for as long as possible. Separate letters will also go out today regarding home study arrangements in the event of any type of closure.

Yours faithfully



Mrs M Marr  
Headteacher