

Re: Coronavirus COVID-19

Dear Parents and Carers,

We hope all your families are coping with this highly unusual and unsettling situation. As ever, we are trying to keep you updated as relevant though the guidance is changing daily. You will also receive a text message regarding this letter. If you do not receive this text, please contact the school.

In terms of attendance for staff and students at school, the most important information is: ***“if you live with others and you or another member of the household have symptoms of coronavirus, then all household members must stay at home and not leave the house for 14 days.”*** If this applies to you, please follow this advice and inform the school of your child’s absence in the usual ways.

The school remains open and we continue to do our best to enable learning, support and development for your children.

Following on from what the Prime Minister said yesterday afternoon, we have seen an increase in the number of our staff and students who are unable to come to school at the moment. I can reassure you that as it stands there are no confirmed cases of coronavirus among our students or staff.

If staff attendance is affected to the extent that we cannot safely and effectively run the school as normal, we may have to close partially if not fully. This might mean, for example, that we can only run lessons for certain year groups. If this is going to happen, we will let you know at the soonest opportunity.

If it does become necessary to completely close the school, contingency plans are in place to continue providing education and pastoral support. For this to work smoothly, we will largely be relying on students having regular access to the internet. **If your child does not have regular access to the internet, please let us know through enquiries@westminsterUTC.ac.uk or call the school.** Please also ensure your child is able to access their school e-mail and the school’s contingency site. These can be found at...

School E-mail: www.office.com

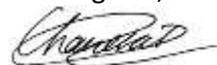
Learning Resources: <https://westminsterutc.sharepoint.com/sites/WestminsterUTC>

The School continues to inform and advise students of the importance of good hygiene, notably use of tissues and hand-washing. Please do the same at home.

In terms of your child’s attendance at school, please use the usual means of informing us. Please note that the School cannot diagnose your child’s symptoms. If your child is unwell and has symptoms that concern you, please follow Public Health England advice.

Learning and study continues as ever here, despite this. The School will continue to try to keep you informed as relevant and meantime, we thank you for your ongoing good communication and support.

Best regards,



Mr. Chandrakumar
Headteacher

Updates on COVID-19: <https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus>

Guidance for educational settings:

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

The DfE's helpline for schools, staff, students, parents, carers can be accessed by phone or email:

Phone: 0800 046 8687 Email: DfE.coronavirushelpline@education.gov.uk

Guidance at time of writing for households with symptoms

Yesterday, the Government introduced new guidance on whole household isolation in response to the coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak:

- if you live alone and you have symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19), however mild, stay at home for 7 days from when your symptoms started
- if you live with others and you or another member of the household 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.

The symptoms are:

- A high temperature (37.8 degrees and above)
 - A new, continuous cough
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