

2 March 2020

Dear Parents, Carers and Staff

The school has been monitoring developments in the local community, and on a Kent and national level regarding the Coronavirus.

You may be aware that another Faversham secondary school has reported that a family member of some of its students has been diagnosed with Coronavirus. These students are self-isolating and will continue to do so over a 14 day period, however it is worth noting they have not displayed any symptoms and are currently well.

Furthermore, one of our students has recently been in contact with a child from this family and, following PHE guidance, is self-isolating at home as a precautionary measure. I would wish to point out this student is not a member of the family affected.

Without wishing to raise undue alarm, we continue to advise that parents and carers follow PHE guidance which suggests:

*“Family and friends who have not had close contact with the original confirmed case do not need to take any precautions or make any changes to their own activities such as attending childcare or educational settings or work, unless they become unwell. If they become unwell, they should call NHS 111 and explain their symptoms and discuss any known contact with the case to consider if they need further assessment.”*

Alongside following the advice of the government we also encourage parents and carers to discuss basic hygiene with their children including:

- washing hands regularly with soap and water, or sanitiser gel, including after using public transport.
- using tissues when coughing or sneezing. Binning used tissues and washing hands immediately afterwards.
- avoiding touching the face with unwashed hands.
- avoiding close contact with those around you are show signs of being unwell.

Official government guidance can be found at the following locations:

<https://publichealthmatters.blog.gov.uk/2020/01/23/wuhan-novel-coronavirus-what-you-need-to-know/>

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/coronavirus-covid-19-information-for-the-public>

We will keep the school community updated if there is any further updates from the government or changes to the advice given to schools.



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