



13th March 2020

Dear Parents / Carers,

Coronavirus update

The UK government is attempting to delay the spread of coronavirus and reduce the epidemic's peak. Included within the government advice that has been issued is that from today:

- All people with a high temperature or a new continuous cough should **self-isolate for seven days**
- Schools should not take trips abroad until further notice.

We want to reassure you that we continue to follow the latest Government and Public Health England guidelines so that we are abreast of updates at all times. The wellbeing of our pupils, families and staff is our highest priority and we all need to be sensible and avoid risks, whilst ensuring we do not compromise the education of our pupils wherever possible. Our academies have been briefed on the latest advice and will be regularly updated.

We continue to keep all planned UK trips and visits under careful consideration. At this stage we have not been advised that we need to cancel any such trips but we continue to monitor the situation daily.

We are well aware that the possibility of all schools being ordered to close by the government will be a matter of consideration in the forthcoming weeks. We are therefore currently developing contingency measures to be as well prepared as possible to minimise disruption to learning if such closures arise.

So far, there have been no confirmed cases of coronavirus in any of the Aspirations Academies, however it is important that pupils, their families and staff continue to follow the advice and guidance given on hygiene control. For example, individuals should:

- Wash their hands with soap and water or hand sanitiser often, particularly:
 - before eating / food preparation
 - before leaving home
 - after taking public transport
 - on arrival at school
 - after using the toilet
 - after breaks and sporting activities
 - before leaving school
- Cover their mouth and nose with a tissue or their sleeve (**not hands**) when coughing or sneezing, and then throw the tissue in a bin;
- Avoid touching their eyes, nose or mouth
- Avoid sharing items such as drinks.

We are resolved to ensure that all Aspirations Academies take sensible measures to protect each and every member of our community. The measures we put in place will be reviewed on a daily basis and any significant amendment or update will be shared with parents and carers.

Steve Kenning

Managing Director
Aspirations Academies Trust