



Dear Parents and Carers,

17<sup>th</sup> March 2020

I am writing to update you on our position at school in light of the updated recommendations.

I am asking that all of our community, including staff follow the new guidelines as below

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/>



### [Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) - NHS](https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/)

COVID-19 is a new illness that can affect your lungs and airways. It's caused by a virus called coronavirus. These pages are for the public. There is coronavirus information for health professionals on the NHS England website. Stay at home if you have coronavirus symptoms Stay at home for 7 days if ...

[www.nhs.uk](http://www.nhs.uk)

This does include guidance to isolate for 14 days if anyone in the home is displaying symptoms of a new persistent cough or a raised temperature. It also gives information and advice about underlying conditions and vulnerable groups.

I wanted to make sure you were clear that you will not be penalised for your child being absent from school due to this situation, I know we are very hot on attendance usually, but this is an extreme situation and we will follow all advice given to us and trust you to do the same.

We have made the decision to cancel any upcoming events such as our Concert, our Options Evening, and Parents Evenings. School trips will also not be going ahead before Easter.

We continue our work today to ensure that students can log on and access learning online in case of closure. If we do need to make any decisions to close or partially close, due to staffing issues we will communicate with you via email and I will also post on twitter.

We are working with our Trust to ensure there is provision for students with free school meals and will be in touch with those impacted as soon as we can.

Thank you for your support, understanding and kindness during this challenging time. I am incredibly proud of our community. If you would like to contact me please email me on [VWhitcombe@castlemanor.org.uk](mailto:VWhitcombe@castlemanor.org.uk)

Yours sincerely,

Vanessa Whitcombe  
Headteacher

Headteacher: Mrs. Vanessa Whitcombe

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