



SANDHILL VIEW

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17th March 2020

Dear Parents/Carers

We are in increasingly uncertain times and find ourselves facing Government advice which poses some slightly mixed messages for school leaders. Please find below an update of the current situation for staff and students at Sandhill View Academy:

- We have **not** been instructed to close school
- No staff have symptoms although some have to self isolate because family members have some symptoms
- Some staff are in vulnerable groups and have been advised to self isolate as a precaution
- Supply agencies currently have a very limited number of staff available
- Some students are absent because either they or a family member have one of the symptoms
- Some students are looked after by grandparents who may fall into the vulnerable groups and there is concern regarding transmission
- Some children have parents who work in front line services and need their child to be in full time education on site so they can go to work

As a school leadership team, we want to support all families, in their very different personal circumstances, through this difficult time. Making sure that our students and their families are safe and that education is as uninterrupted as possible is our priority.

Our current plans are:

- School remains open for all staff and students who are fit, well, not in a vulnerable group and not living with anyone with symptoms
- All students who have to self isolate because a member of the household has symptoms will be expected to complete school work as set by their teachers on Show My Homework.
- Children absent from school for reasons linked to the current situation will not be subject to our usual attendance monitoring procedures.

For students who are self-isolating (and not ill) we request that parents/carers provide us with written confirmation (further details will follow via text message/MyEd) that:

- They will be supervised by a responsible adult
- They have access to the internet to complete the school work that has been set
- They will **not** be out of the home during school hours (8.35-3.35)
- They will follow their usual school timetable when 'working from home'.

Please continue to keep us updated about your child's health through the usual attendance reporting procedures.

In the event of partial or full school closure, more specific guidance and support for home working will be released.

Yours sincerely

Joanne Maw

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