



High Tunstall College of Science

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Headteacher: Mark R Tilling

Deputy Headteachers: Peter W Hayward and Laura Ovens

13th March 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

I would like to inform you about our plans and preparations for any potential disruption to college regarding Coronavirus (COVID-19) as we thought it would be helpful to explain what we are putting in place.

Firstly, we continue to receive daily updates from the Government and we continue to follow their advice.

As a college, we have been through our emergency plans and developed contingencies should we have to close or partially close due to either Government instruction or due to staff absence. In the event of any closure, partial or full, we will send you a message via our My Ed app, our website and social media. Most importantly, we will remain open and hope for excellent attendance unless you hear, via one of these methods, to the contrary.

We have also increased significantly the cleaning of our college and our hand washing areas remain well-stocked and we have talked to all students about how to properly wash their hands.

We are now preparing to provide work for your son/daughter should we have to close the College for any length of time. We are well-prepared for this situation, with excellent IT systems in place. We have been developing our use of Microsoft Teams: a cloud-based drive where we can share resources, replicate classes, distribute work, grade and send feedback. We have introduced our new learning platform Century Tec (<https://www.century.tech/>) where students are able to access English, Maths and Science content and work that is at the appropriate level for them. As we further prepare these resources and in the event of having to use them, we will send out more information.

Please find attached a return slip to indicate to us of the best way to communicate and send the work to you. We need to understand fully the accessibility of the internet and online learning for all students so that we can prepare for whatever happens in the next few weeks.

As per the updated medical guidance, if your son/daughter is unwell with a fever and/or a new and sustained cough they should not attend college but should self-isolate for 7 days (5 school days). If your son/daughter is in this situation please inform the college when you report the absence that this is the case, so that we can accurately record absences.

I appreciate this is a difficult time with a high level of uncertainty but I hope this information gives you some reassurance about our current planning and actions to support your son/daughter.

Yours faithfully

Mr M Tilling
Headteacher

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