

Corona Virus (Covid 19) Update 9th March

Dear students and families

Corona Virus (Covid-19) – update 05.03.20

I'm writing to update you on the position at our College in respect of the Coronavirus/Covid-19 risk.

At present we have no confirmed cases among our students and staff and staff and managers are closely monitoring the situation daily.

We are taking every precaution and have briefed our staff to sustain a high level of vigilance at all times. We have a set of protocols in place, based on Public Health England's guidance.

We intend to remain open and to continue to operate as normal. To help us manage this risk, it is essential that students and their families keep up to date with Government advice, accessible via the website: <https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus>

We have hand sanitizer dispensers placed throughout the College which are checked regularly and expect our students and staff to follow the official advice on practical hygiene measures:

- Wash your hands with soap and water and/or use hand sanitiser if available regularly particularly on arriving at college and before eating;
- Avoid coughing or sneezing into your hands; use a tissue and dispose of it carefully or catch the cough or sneeze on your sleeve
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose or mouth, especially if you have not washed your hands
- Avoid sharing items such as drinks
- It is essential that everyone understands the Government's expectations and that you do not come to College if you feel unwell. The symptoms associated with Covid-19/ corona virus are:
 - Cough
 - Fever
 - In severe cases difficulty in breathing.

If you have travelled to any of the affected areas in Category 1 and are well or unwell:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-specified-countries-and-areas/covid-2019-specified-countries-and-areas-with-implications-for-returning-travellers-or-visitors-20arriving-in-the-uk> you should self-isolate at home and call NHS 111 to find out what to do next.

If you believe you have had contact with a confirmed case of Covid-19/corona virus, you should self-isolate at home and call NHS 111 to find out what to do next.

If you have travelled to any of the affected areas/countries in Category 2 and are unwell:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-specified-countries-and-areas/covid-2019-specified-countries-and-areas-with-implications-for-returning-travellers-or-visitors-20arriving-in-the-uk> you should self-isolate and contact NHS 111 to find out what to do next.

If you have travelled to any of the affected areas/countries in Category 2 and are unwell:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-specified-countries-and-areas/covid-2019-specified-countries-and-areas-with-implications-for-returning-travellers-or-visitors-20arriving-in-the-uk>, you should continue as normal. You should self-isolate and call NHS 111 only if you develop symptoms.

Please be assured that we continue to operate the highest level of vigilance and we are closely in touch with the health authorities on a regular basis to help manage our response to this situation.

We will comply with all of the Government's guidance at all times and put the safety of our students and staff first.

We will continue to update you as the situation progresses.

Richmond upon Thames College Leadership Team