



Bexley Grammar School
Danson Lane, Welling, Kent, DA16 2BL
A Specialist Language College
and IB World School
Tel: 020 8304 8538

EMAIL SENT TO ALL PARENTS VIA PARENTPAY ON 13 MARCH 2020

Dear Parent/Carer

Following the Cobra meeting yesterday, the advice around the management of COVID-19 for schools and the general public has changed. The government now advises that if you have coronavirus symptoms - **either a new continuous cough or a high temperature (or both)** - then you must stay at home for seven days to protect others. This advice – 7 days self-isolation - applies to everyone. Please report any absence in the usual way by contacting the Attendance Office.

In addition, we ask any parent or carer or member of the wider community who have these symptoms not to come into school.

Our Year 10 Parents' Evening on Tuesday 17th will continue as planned, following a successful Year 8 Parents' Evening this week, but I would ask parents or carers due to attend to pay particular attention to the new guidance. Our staff will be following the same advice so that between us we keep the school community as safe as is possible.

Schools have also been advised to cancel trips abroad. There is no time-frame on this advice but we had been assuming that any trips this side of the summer holiday would be cancelled. We are working with airlines, tour operators and our insurance company to minimise any financial penalties to parents and carers but this will take time. The advice we are receiving at the moment is to wait until the airlines or tour operators cancel in order to reduce or eliminate financial liabilities for you. Please be patient.

The Government has taken the decision not to close schools. The situation is fluid and evolving; we will continue to follow carefully the guidance provided by Public Health England.

Thank you for your continued support and understanding.

Steve Elphick