

16th March 2020

Dear Parents/Guardians

You will have seen that there are three confirmed cases of COVID-19 (Coronavirus) in Worcestershire (as at 15/3/20). There is no known connection between these cases and anyone at the College.

The main messages I would like to give you are that if your son or daughter shows any symptoms of COVID-19 infection, however mild, they should stay at home for 7 days from when their symptoms started. The most common symptoms are recent onset of new continuous cough and/or high temperature.

Some parents whose son or daughter has a serious underlying medical condition have asked the College whether they should remain at home. My advice is to seek medical advice on what additional risks there are should they contract the virus and that ultimately this is a decision for parents to make.

The government's advice is that for most people, COVID-19 will be a mild infection. I have included their guidance below.

College staff continue to prepare to support students remotely should the College have to close at any future date. Please see my previous email for information on this which is also available on the College website <https://www.wsfc.ac.uk/covid-19-coronavirus-update/>.

I will share any changes in government advice or any information I have relating to COVID-19 as and when I get it.

Yours sincerely

Ed Senior
Principal

Government Advice **Symptoms**

The most common symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19) are recent onset of:

- new continuous cough and/or
- high temperature

For most people, coronavirus (COVID-19) will be a mild infection

Main messages

- if you have symptoms of coronavirus infection (COVID-19), however mild, do not leave your home for 7 days from when your symptoms started. (See [ending isolation](#) section below for more information)
- this action will help protect others in your community while you are infectious
- plan ahead and ask others for help to ensure that you can successfully stay at home

- ask your employer, friends and family to help you get the things you need to stay at home
- stay at least 2 metres (about 3 steps) away from other people in your home if possible
- sleep alone, if possible
- wash your hands regularly for 20 seconds, each time using soap and water, or use hand sanitiser
- stay away from vulnerable individuals, such as the elderly and those with underlying health conditions, as much as possible
- you do not need to call NHS 111 to go into self-isolation. If your symptoms worsen during home isolation or are no better after 7 days, contact [NHS 111 online](#). If you have no internet access, call NHS 111. For a medical emergency dial 999

The full guidance can be found by following this

link: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-stay-at-home-guidance/stay-at-home-guidance-for-people-with-confirmed-or-possible-coronavirus-covid-19-infection>.