



QUEEN'S PARK HIGH SCHOOL

13th March 2020

Coronavirus Update

Dear Parents and Carers,

I am writing in relation to current concerns around the ongoing coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak and the impact and the implications for us here at Queen's Park High School.

As you will undoubtedly be aware, the government has now taken the step of moving out of the contain phase and into the delay phase with the following advice:

'The most important thing individuals can do to protect themselves remains washing their hands more often, for at least 20 seconds, with soap and water. Make sure you cough or sneeze into a tissue, put it in a bin and wash your hands.'

We are asking anyone who shows certain symptoms to self-isolate for 7 days, regardless of whether they have travelled to affected areas. This means we want people to stay at home and avoid all but essential contact with others for 7 days from the point of displaying mild symptoms, to slow the spread of infection.

The symptoms are:

- *a high temperature (37.8 degrees and above)*
- *a new, continuous cough*

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 at 111.nhs.uk. If you have no internet access, you should call NHS 111. For a medical emergency dial 999.'

Department of Health and Social Care Press Release – 12 March 2020

In the coming weeks, the government has stated that it will be introducing further social distancing measures which could potentially lead to school closures, however until this point we will be continuing as normal but with additional measures in place to ensure enhanced hygiene standards across the school. Additional hand sanitizers have been placed around the school for students and staff use and our cleaning provision has been reviewed and revised.

To date, as a school, we have been unaffected by the virus and would just request that we continue to maintain strong communication between home and school over the coming weeks should you have any health concerns for your child/within your family which may be linked to the virus. Please ensure that you contact school to report any absences for illness or self-isolation in the usual way – using the EduLink app or by ringing school directly. Could I please also request that you contact school prior to your child's return to school following any suspected coronavirus related absence, as we are trying to monitor absences carefully to minimise risks.

Whilst we await further guidance from the government, I would just like to reassure you that we are putting together plans to support your child's education from home should there be a forced closure of the school. We will be using EduLink as our key communication tool, so would request that you check your own and your child's access to this over the coming days and if you have any problems at all, please contact us at school.

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QUEEN'S PARK HIGH SCHOOL, QUEENS PARK ROAD, CHESTER CH4 7AE

T: 01244 981500 | E: enquiries@qphs.co.uk | W: www.qphs.co.uk | [@qphschester](https://twitter.com/qphschester)

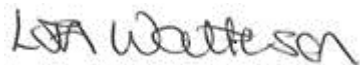
Headteacher: Lyndsay Watterson MA NPQH



Finally, in relation to educational visits and trips, we are reviewing the risk assessments of all forthcoming school visits and taking advice from Evolve (our risk assessment advisors) and the Department for Education. For our overseas trip to France which is due to leave in April, we are currently clarifying the position with a view to submitting claims to obtain refunds from either ABTA, via the tour companies and/or our insurers (the Government's RPA). We will update you when further information is available. We kindly ask for your patience with this matter as the agencies we are dealing with are, understandably, very busy.

Should you have any questions or concerns about any of the information within this letter, please do not hesitate to contact us at school. I will be in contact with you again next week pending any further updates. In the meantime however, please look after yourselves and enjoy the weekend.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "LW Watterson". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "LW".

Miss Lyndsay Watterson
Headteacher