



## THE HELENA ROMANES SCHOOL & SIXTH FORM CENTRE

16 March 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

Further to our recent communications, please find some key updates below.

### Self-isolation

The safety and welfare of students and staff is our highest priority. Further to our update on 12 March, we can confirm that **there are still no confirmed cases of Coronavirus within the school community**. We can, however, confirm that some members of our school community have chosen to self-isolate in line with the government's updated guidance (see below).

### Symptoms in children

Public Health England has changed their advice to all members of the public. People should now self-isolate for a period of at least seven days should they show the symptoms of a fever/high temperature and/or a new persistent cough. With this in mind, we urge all parents/carers to keep their children away from school for a week if they are concerned that their child might be displaying these symptoms.

### Trips & Visits

The government has advised that all school trips abroad should stop; we are currently in discussions with the organisers of our upcoming World Challenge trip to Morocco and our Ski Trip to the USA. We will provide you with additional information (about these trips and those booked for the summer term) in due course.

### Extra-Curricular Clubs, Activities & Fixtures

While the school will remain open during the normal day, we will take some steps to minimise the risk of community transmission in additional activities. We have therefore decided to cancel or postpone after-school clubs, activities and fixtures from Tuesday 17 March for the time being. Year 11 impact sessions will continue to run as normal.

### Partial Closure of School

Our aim is for the school to remain open, unless government policy changes. With this in mind we do need to inform you that there are minimum safe staffing levels for our operation and in the event of heavy staff absence through self-isolation it may be necessary to partially close the school to some students. We would only make this decision when it is essential in terms of safe staffing levels. Decisions may be made at short notice but we would hope to inform parents/carers on the day before if we have to implement these measures.

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Headteacher: Daniel Gee BA(Hons), MA, NPGH

### Full Closure of the School

Should the government decide that schools across the country must close then we will follow this advice. We believe that we would be able to continue a form of online education for students, and teaching staff would be expected to work from home to set work. If this occurs, we will provide more detailed information to parents/carers and students.

### Further Information

We will continue to be vigilant with cleanliness and to promote hand hygiene. We would like to remind you to look regularly at the government's advice on these matters, as this will include the most up to date guidance.

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/coronavirus-covid-19-information-for-the-public>

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Daniel Gee". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'D'.

Daniel Gee  
Headteacher