

13<sup>th</sup> March 2020

Dear Parent/Carer

I am sure you will be all keeping a close eye on national and local updates regarding Covid-19. As an Academy we have been and will continue to monitor and respond to the advice and direction given to Educational Settings by Public Health England, the Government and at a regional and local level.

Yesterday evening the Government changed the phase status to the 'Delay' phase. Below is a summary of the Government announcement.

**COVID-19: Government announces moving out of contain phase and into delay**

*The Government has announced that we are moving out of the contain phase and into delay, in response to the ongoing coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak.*

*The UK Chief Medical Officers have now raised the risk to the UK from moderate to high.*

*As per the current 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](http://111.nhs.uk). If you have no internet access, you should call NHS 111. For a medical emergency dial 999.*

In addition to the advice above you can find further information and updates through:

**Department for Education coronavirus helpline**

*The Department for Education coronavirus helpline is available to answer questions about COVID-19 relating to education and children's social care. Staff, parents and young people can contact this helpline as follows:*

*Phone: 0800 046 8687*

*Opening hours: 8am to 6pm (Monday to Friday)*

**Government coronavirus action plan**

*The government coronavirus action plan sets out what the UK has done to tackle coronavirus (COVID-19), and what we plan to do next.*

*The situation is constantly reviewed and action informed by expert science and advice, guided by the Chief Medical Officer and the Chief Scientific Adviser.*

The action plan can be found here:

- <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-action-plan>

What does this mean for our Academy Community?

**Student Absence** - Please continue to make us aware if your child is not going to be in school for any reason as you would normally do. When communicating the reason for absence I ask that you clarify whether it is for self-isolation.

Please communicate student absence by:

1. Emailing [attendance@theaxholmeacademy.com](mailto:attendance@theaxholmeacademy.com). If emailing information about an absence please include the full name of your child and the specific reason for absence including their symptoms.
2. Telephone the Academy on 01724 710368 extension 1 and either speak to Miss Ayres (Attendance Officer) or leave a voicemail.

**Academy Trips** - We are in contact with trip providers as to whether any of the upcoming scheduled trips are affected. We will communicate any updates with parents/students involved in any scheduled trips with information as soon as it is available.

**Hygiene** - We continue to apply the advice around hand washing and hygiene across the Academy.

Over the coming days we will use the SIMS Parent App as the main communication method. We will also put updates on the Academy website and Facebook Page. If you need any technical support to ensure you have access to the SIMS Parent App please contact [nsample@theaxholmeacademy.com](mailto:nsample@theaxholmeacademy.com)

If there is further advice given you will be kept fully informed. Thank you for your continued support.

Yours faithfully



Mr D Keogh  
Principal