

13th March 2020

Dear parents and carers

We are continuing to monitor the outbreak of the COVID-19 Coronavirus and its potential impact on our students and the wider community. As of today, we are entering the Delay phase of management at national level.

We are not currently aware of any student, parent, teacher or any other member of staff either at UAE South Bank or South Bank UTC who has been diagnosed with the virus. We continue to take all reasonable steps to ensure this remains the case, but we must also make plans if and when the situation changes. We know that the situation is changing quickly and we want to work with you to protect our community and minimise the impact to students' education.

Self-isolation

New guidance (link [here](#)) states that anyone with a new continuous cough and/or a temperature (of above 37.8C) should self-isolate for seven days. You do not need to call 111 to go into self-isolation. If symptoms worsen during home isolation or are no better after seven days, you are advised to contact NHS111 online (www.111.nhs.uk) If your child requires self-isolation you must let us know immediately; we will do everything we can to support.

If a student at UAE or the UTC is confirmed as being infected with coronavirus

If we receive confirmation that one of our students has been infected with coronavirus, we will contact 111 / Public Health England. We will act on the advice given and undertake a risk assessment. In most cases, closure of the school will not be necessary, but this will be a decision made in line with advice on a case by case basis.

If UAE or the UTC takes the decision to close

1. Parents and carers will be informed of the decision via email and the UAE/UTC website.
2. Notices will be posted on the school Twitter feeds.
3. Students will be informed of the decision to close and of the arrangements for remote teaching and learning.
4. Work will be set electronically. Students will be expected to complete work at home and engage fully with their education.

Throughout the coronavirus outbreak, the leadership teams will remain alert for changes in Government advice and will keep staff, parents and pupils informed about updates or any possible school closures. This will take place via email and school websites as well as social media channels.

External Examinations

Many students and families are understandably concerned about the risk of disruption to GCSE and A level exams. The latest advice from OFQUAL (<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/updated->

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[statement-on-coronavirus](#)) is that schools and pupils should continue to prepare for exams and other assessments as normal.

Trips, visits, events, travel

Currently, all trips, visits and events are taking place as normal, but this may change. If UAE or the UTC is closed, it is highly likely that all school trips, sports fixtures and other events will be postponed or cancelled. No overseas trips are planned for the immediate future. Government guidance on travel is here: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/travel-advice-novel-coronavirus>

Reopening following closure

We will remain in regular contact through email as well as through regular updates on the websites and social media channels, and will endeavour to reopen the as soon as advised.

Further information and support

Government guidance on Covid-19

<https://www.gov.uk/government/topical-events/coronavirus-covid-19-uk-government-response>

Guidance for education settings

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/guidance-to-educational-settings-about-covid-19>

Education resources

<https://campaignresources.phe.gov.uk/resources/campaigns/101-coronavirus-/resources>

<https://campaignresources.phe.gov.uk/schools>

Department for Education social media

<https://twitter.com/educationgovuk>

<https://www.facebook.com/educationgovuk/>

DfE Advice line (8am-6pm Monday to Friday) 0800 046 8687

Yours faithfully

Dan Cundy
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