



Herne Bay High School

Specialist Sports College

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4th March 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

I thought it a good time to update you on how Herne Bay High School is dealing with the global event that is Coronavirus. You will have read in the press that schools are key players in both the containment and the prevention of the virus spreading and, as you would expect, we are approaching it in a measured but definitive way.

The school carries out daily checks on all the national government advice from Public Health England, The Foreign and Commonwealth Office as well as being in regular contact with the Local Authority, NHS England and our partner schools. This is to ensure that we are following and complying with the very latest advice and that we are able to risk assess all activities enabling us to continue to operate as normal.

Some of the activities we are undertaking in response to the Coronavirus are:

- We have set up a mutual communication link between ourselves and all other local junior schools which is enabling us to coordinate response to any issues that arise and support the numerous sibling links we have within the primary sector.
- We are making sure all HBHS students are reminded about basic hygiene and in mentor time this week they will all get a detailed lesson on how to wash hands, avoid risk, and deal with normal coughs and colds. We are also fully aware that national reporting can create anxieties within children and families, therefore next week all students will have an assembly that will go over all the facts and figures, the reality and the precautions that need to be taken to remain safe and healthy during the coming months.
- Communication continues to play a big role in reducing risk and ensuring the school is updated with information about family connections, travel plans and external activities that could heighten the risk of exposure to higher risk areas. I can assure you that we undertake a full risk assessment of all information available at the time before allowing any activity to run, this includes the curriculum-based trips that we have planned over the coming weeks.

I have created a link from our home page of the school website so that you have all the materials and updated information that we are using; can I ask that you please read and share the contents with your children: <https://www.hernebayhigh.org/information/coronavirus/>

I can assure you that the school has the health and wellbeing of all its students, staff and families as its very top priority and will continue to do everything we can to deliver a high-quality education at this time.

I will continue to write to you with updates in the coming days and weeks as the situation unfolds.

With kind regards

Jon Boyes
Principal