

Information on Covid-19 12th March 2020

Glossopdale School has a duty of care to all its students, staff and our wider community. We are following the advice given out by the Department for Health and Social Care and Public Health England. We are monitoring all advice and guidance and will keep this page updated on a daily basis.

Students should not worry as it appears that the young are the least vulnerable age group. It is important though for them to take precautions so that they do not pass infection to people who may be more affected.

Where can I find more information about Coronavirus?

[The best way to find out about the Coronavirus and the government's response is to Click here](#)

[Specific government advice for schools can be found if you click here](#)

[Advice and links Derbyshire](#)

Is the school open?

Yes. The current advice from Public Health England is that there is no need to close educational settings or send other learners or staff home. School is fully open for all year groups.

What action is the school taking?

We have additional cleaning during the school day and at weekends. We are educating our students about effective hygiene and the control of the virus.

Current advice to all staff and students in educational settings is as follows:

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/869250/Coronavirus_advice_for_educational_settings_poster.pdf

Are trips and events still going ahead?

We have not cancelled or postponed any school trips or events. We intend for options evening on 12th March and future scheduled parents' evenings to take place.

At present, there is no guidance that states that school events and sporting fixtures should be postponed or cancelled. We are obviously reviewing the situation closely and will update parents and students if any advice changes.

During events such as parents' evenings we are ensuring adequate handwashing facilities are available to allow staff, parents and visitors to practise good hygiene. We are also welcoming visitors warmly but without a handshake at the moment.

What if one of my child's family or close friends is diagnosed with Coronavirus?

If someone in your immediate social circle (i.e. close friends and family) is diagnosed with Covid-19, please seek medical advice by contacting NHS 111 before sending your child to school. Please follow the advice that you are given and let us know so that we can also seek professional advice regarding the possible implications for our school.

What about the GCSE and A level examinations?

Ofqual, the body that co-ordinates examinations, issued the statement below on 6 March 2020. This is still the correct information as of today. Students should continue to work towards their examinations as normal as we do not anticipate any changes at the moment.

Ofqual Statement

'We recognise that students, parents, schools and colleges will be concerned about the possible impact of coronavirus on the 2020 summer exam series. Our advice at this time is to continue to prepare for exams and other assessments as normal.

We continue to work closely with exam boards, other regulators and the Department for Education and we have met to plan for a range of scenarios, as the public would expect. Our overriding priorities are fairness to students this summer and keeping disruption to a minimum.

It is still many weeks until exams start and we will issue updated advice if necessary, giving schools and colleges as much notice as possible.'

Ofqual and JCQ, the Joint Council for Qualifications, have contingency plans in the case of disruption to public examinations. Should these plans be put in place, we will communicate them to parents.

What can I do?

Personal hygiene is the most important way we can tackle COVID-19, especially washing hands more; and the catch it, bin it, kill it strategy for those with coughs and sneezes.

Insert link:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aGJNspLRdrc>

If you are concerned that any members of your family have symptoms linked to the Coronavirus, follow Public Health England guidance and call NHS 111.

If there is an emergency, please call 999.

How will parents be informed of any changes?

We will inform parents via text, email and the school website if there are any changes we are advised to make.