



16th March 2020

Dear Parents/Carers

Covid-19 Update

As you will no doubt be aware we have just received a further update from the Government regarding the handling of the Covid-19 virus. The guidance we are now following is as follows:

- Anyone with a cough or high fever, or anyone in the same household as someone with a cough or fever must self isolate for 14 days.

For all the other aspects of the guidance please see the latest news and Public Health England guidance.

Key education leaders have met with the government today and for the time being schools are to remain open. The new more stringent guidelines will obviously have an impact on our staffing levels and we will monitor this on a daily basis taking appropriate decisions to ensure the safety and well-being of all of our students and staff.

Measures taken in School

As well as the measures we advised in our previous communication we have today taken the following additional steps:

- After school clubs will continue in school but we will cancel all external sports fixtures.
- Contact sports will be suspended in our PE lessons.
- Year 11 Parents' Evening is still scheduled to go ahead but amendments will be made to limit the number of people in one space. We will however continue to keep this decision under scrutiny.
- We have a trip due to go to London in the next few weeks. We will be making contact tomorrow with the company organising the visit and we will contact those families of students due to go on the trip separately.
- Should a student be taken ill at school with the symptoms of the virus, we have plans in place to isolate them for a short period. Please could we ask you to support us with this by collecting your child as soon as possible. It is also essential that we have up to date contact details for your child, so please do advise us immediately if these change.
- As mentioned above we have no instruction to close schools at the current time. As part of our contingency planning we have today completed the roll out of Microsoft Teams to all our students and staff. This is part of our longer term IT strategic plan, but current events means that we have pulled the roll out forward. Students have been shown exactly how to log on to their email

Headteacher: Miss D Martin

Harrogate Road, Rawdon, Leeds, LS19 6LX Tel: (0113) 250 2330

www.bentonpark.org.uk

E-mail: secretary@bentonpark.net

 [@BentonParkSch](https://twitter.com/BentonParkSch)



BENTON PARK SCHOOL

'Creating a climate for great learning, success and opportunity'

and access Teams and complete and submit work set for them by the teaching staff. Students have been encouraged to download the Microsoft Teams App if they wish to do so. Please could we ask you to speak to your child re this and work with them to download the App if they haven't already done so. It is fair to say it has been a massive undertaking getting all the students to access it in such a short space of time and we would just like to pass on how proud we are of our students who have approached this with such maturity, adaptability and positivity. They really are a credit to us and you as their parents/carers. For your information, guidance on accessing this will be forwarded to parents/carers later in the week.

This is an ever changing situation and we know that further measures are planned for later in the week. We will continue to keep up to date with developments and follow the advice issued and will communicate with you as soon as possible. Thank you for your patience and understanding at what is an incredibly difficult time for us all.

Yours sincerely

Delia Martin
Headteacher

Headteacher: Miss D Martin

Harrogate Road, Rawdon, Leeds, LS19 6LX Tel: (0113) 250 2330

www.bentonpark.org.uk

E-mail: secretary@bentonpark.net

 [@BentonParkSch](https://twitter.com/BentonParkSch)