

16 March 2020

Coronavirus statement

New government advice for schools/colleges

Dear Parents and Carers,

We would like to reassure you that we are continuing to review the current situation and any impact it may have at Camphill Wakefield. We are following the advice issued by the government through Public Health England and the Department for Education and remain open as usual. We are encouraging good hygiene practices when coughing/sneezing, and also encouraging frequent handwashing.

The government has declined so far to close schools/colleges over the coronavirus pandemic, with health chiefs saying that disruption caused by doing so would outweigh the gain in disease-prevention although there is a possibility that we will be advised to close at some point in the future.

If your child or someone in your household is unwell with a new, continuous cough or a high temperature to avoid spreading infection to others, they should stay at home. Otherwise they should attend education or work as normal.

If your child becomes unwell on site with a new, continuous cough or a high temperature they should be sent home.

Regularly-touched objects and surfaces will be cleaned and disinfected more often than usual using standard cleaning products.

Students will be supervised to ensure they wash their hands for 20 seconds more often than usual with soap and water or hand sanitiser, and catch coughs and sneezes in tissues

Unless we have been directly advised to close by the local Public Health England Health protection team, we remain open.

Self-isolation measures: anyone with a new persistent cough or high temperature is now advised to self-isolate for 7 days

Further information:

Should you have any questions, the Department for Education has launched a new Education Coronavirus helpline to answer questions about COVID-19 related to education.

Staff, parents, carers and young people can contact the helpline as follows:

Phone: 0800 046 8687 (opening hours: 8am to 6pm Monday to Friday)

Email: DfE.coronavirushelpline@education.gov.uk

The coronavirus situation is evolving daily and we will respond to any changes to the government advice being given.

William Taylor

Principal