

16 March 2020

Dear parent/carer

### **Coronavirus update**

Further to my update last Monday, you will be aware that the situation regarding the Coronavirus pandemic has moved on, and as such we have changed our stance on some school matters in response. From today we have taken the decision to cancel parents' evenings, school shows, trips and sporting events until further notice. We hope you will support us in this decision. As yet, school remains open and we will be guided by Department for Education, Public Health England and NHS instructions in relation to this, meaning we will close the school if and when we are told to do so.

Students and parents are clearly worried by the uncertainty surrounding school closures and upcoming exams. I would like to reassure you that staff are working hard to prepare for all eventualities to ensure that children can still access learning should they not be able to physically attend school in the coming weeks or months. I will keep you updated on this as and when systems are in place and operational and if we need to use them.

The safety of children and staff is our priority and as such we are encouraging all children to continue with excellent hygiene measures as outlined in my last update – I ask you to continue to encourage this to support our effort.

Should schools be told to close, we will inform parents by letter and text as well as on our website and social media channels. In the event that we do close, we will post daily updates on our website, so there is a single regular point of information you can go to. Again, we will post clear information about this should we need to.

Thank you for your continued support in this uncertain time and for supporting us in the new measures we are taking.

Kind regards,

**T Spoons**

Toni Spoons, Executive Headteacher, Ashington Academy

