

IGS Update including Important Message from our Community Doctors

Dear Parents/Carers,

We wanted to get in touch after our first day of remote learning to say that we hope your son / daughter has had a positive day today and has begun to get themselves into a good daily routine by interacting with and completing the work set by their teachers online today.

A short powerpoint giving some ideas and resources about how to help students with their mental and physical wellbeing over the coming weeks is being created and will be sent out in the next couple of days.

We are aware of a few teething problems here and there with access to apps, ipads etc. and are working as fast as we can to iron these out, so do please bear with us as we all get used to this new way of working!

Mrs Purnell will be sending a communication out to parents of Year 11 and 13 students later this week to follow on from her email to students over the weekend, which will give some further information about our plans and expectations for these year groups now that the exams have been cancelled.

In the meantime, if you are a parent of one of these year groups, can we take the opportunity to please ask you not to make direct contact with teachers regarding the predicted grades that will be submitted to exam boards for GCSEs and A levels. It is not fair on anyone to speculate about or be drawn on grades at this moment in time and we have therefore asked all staff not to engage with any parents or students about this. Please support us with this and trust our teachers to work in the best interests of your son or daughter, as they always do every day.

Finally, we have been contacted today by our local GP network asking us to share the urgent message below. Please can I urge you to read this message and discuss it as appropriate with your son/daughter tonight so that IGS students can continue to act as leaders and role models in our wider community. What is becoming increasingly clear is that we must all take responsibility and play our part in helping the country to stem the spread of this virus.

Thank you as always for your support with everything and wishing you and your family all the best at this increasingly difficult time.

Ilkley Grammar School

Urgent coronavirus message from local GPs

-----Original Message-----

From: caroline rayment

Sent: 23 March 2020 14:21

To: IGS Admin Email <admin@ilkleygs.co.uk>

Subject: Urgent corona virus message from local gp's

Dear Head teachers , I am writing to you as a representative of the WACA GP federation which comprises all the GP services in Wharfedale (as well as some others).

We wanted to pass on to you how extremely concerned we are at the imminent risk to our community in the coming weeks. This is an unprecedented medical crisis - the like of which we have never seen.

As there is essentially no treatment for the coronavirus the only useful thing we can do is practise rigorous social distancing and hand washing.

We are extremely concerned that since the schools have shut the number of people in close proximity outside has increased.

Social distancing is imperative and works best if it is enforced BEFORE we become inundated with the virus.

We would like you to remind your students and parents to abide by the social distancing guidelines:

- Keep inside with your family
- Do not have anyone else in your home , nor go into other peoples houses.
- If you go outside travel with your household family or if with someone not in your household in groups of no more than 2's and keep 2m apart.
- If you go to the supermarket keep 2m apart
- If you work, work from home - if you are unable to do this stay 2m apart when commuting, if possible.
- It is ok to go outside for fresh air but either do this alone, with your household family, or in groups of 2, 2m apart.
- If over 70 or someone who would be offered an annual flu jab as an adult stay home if you can and arrange for someone else to do your shopping. If you go out for a walk follow the guidelines above.
- If you are one of the 1 and a 1/2 million people the nhs have identified to be at very high risk then we would ask you not to leave your house at all for 12 weeks

Thank you

Kind regards,

Dr Caroline Rayment