

Ratcliffe College **COVID-19 (Coronavirus): Visitor Policy**

In response to the global Coronavirus outbreak, Ratcliffe College has implemented a strict visitor policy to safeguard the health and wellbeing of the whole school community.

Our policy has been developed in accordance with the advice and guidance given by the Foreign and Commonwealth Office (FCO), Public Health England (PHE), the Boarding Schools' Association (BSA) and the Medical Officer of Schools Association (MOSA), supported by our in-house medical team.

The current situation is as follows:

- If you live alone and you have symptoms of coronavirus illness (COVID-19), however mild, stay at home for 7 days from when your symptoms started.
- If you live with others and you or one of them have symptoms of coronavirus, then all household members must stay at home and not leave the house for 14 days. The 14-day period starts from the day when the first person in the house became ill
- Medical advice tells us that Covid-19 has a fourteen-day period in which a potential risk-carrier (whether symptomatic or not) can spread the virus.
- With that contagion period in mind, a person travelling from a high-risk country, as defined by PHE, must self-isolate for fourteen days.
- If another person (student or staff) comes into *direct contact* with a potential risk-carrier during that fourteen-day period and is symptomatic, they too must self-isolate for fourteen days from the first day of contact and contact NHS111.

Therefore, to protect the school community, we would ask anyone who meets the following criteria not to visit the School until they have completed the specified self-isolation period and remained symptom-free. The symptoms of coronavirus are:

- new continuous cough and/or
- high temperature

But these symptoms do not necessarily mean you have the illness. The symptoms are similar to other illnesses that are much more common, such as cold and flu.

Please do not visit the School if you have any of the above symptoms or you live with others and you or one of them have symptoms of coronavirus.

If you fulfil either of these criteria, you must:

- Self-isolate for 14 days.
- Be symptom-free during this period before visiting the School.

Given the close-knit environment in our school and boarding houses where viruses can be transmitted easily, our policy on self-isolation goes above and beyond the minimum standards of care, as our number one priority is to safeguard the health and wellbeing of our students, staff and the wider school community.

We will continue to monitor the Coronavirus outbreak and assess the associated risks carefully. This is fast-changing and we will issue new information as appropriate.

17 March 2020

*Further information can be found on the Public Health England website.