

# Sedbergh Schools' response to the risk presented by Novel Coronavirus (Covid-19)

#### Statement No 13 issued on 23 March 2020

In response to the strong messages from Government and in order to protect staff, our local community and to assist in impeding the spread of the Coronavirus Covid-19, Sedbergh School, Casterton Sedbergh Prep School and all subsidiaries will move to remote working at the end of today, Monday 23 March. Remote teaching and education will continue as planned whilst children attending the Mulberry Bush Nursery will transfer to the Spotted Dog Nursery at Burton-in-Kendal which will remain available for as long as possible.

#### Access to the School site

After the end of the working day today, staff should not return to the School or workplace unless they are required or authorised to do so by a member of SLT or fall into the following categories:

- Strategic Leadership Team.
- 2. Security Staff on routine security checks.
- 3. Maintenance, Grounds and IT staff undertaking essential and immediate work.

This arrangement will be kept under continuous review.

All staff are directed to the Remote Working guidelines set out on the School intranet page. Line Managers will continue to direct staff activity in order to maintain the successful operation of the School. It is essential that staff have access to the SMS text messaging service which will be the main way of communicating information to all staff, and that where appropriate they have access to the School Intranet, Zoom, Teams and other remote working technology agreed within Departments.

#### Children of Key Workers

Some staff volunteers who are caring for children of key and designated workers will also remain on site and will be directed by Nick Goligher. Operations staff who are supporting that function will be directed by their Line Managers.

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## **Further Information for Staff**

Between 9.30am-12.30pm on Tuesday 24 March the COO will address ongoing working arrangements in a rolling presentation with Operational Staff in Powell Hall. In light of this communication it is not compulsory to attend this meeting in person; it will be streamed on Zoom and will be distributed as an attachment to SMS text message thereby informing any staff who cannot, or do not wish to attend the meetings.

As Government releases further information for businesses and employees, we will pass this to staff through SMS messages. All information will be placed on the School intranet page.

### Contacting the School

An immediate consequence of this change will be that most School telephone lines will not be answered. Messages directing callers to the correct email address will be placed on phones but in the event that you are unable to secure a response, please email the main School address (principal@sedberghschool.org).

We take this opportunity to urge all members of the Sedbergh School community to prioritise their health and well-being by following Government guidelines about isolation and social distancing. At the same time, please stay in touch with the School and each other through digital technology. Do not hesitate to seek help in the event that it is needed.

Andrew Fleck Principal Peter Marshall Chief Operating Officer

Dan Harrison Headmaster, Sedbergh School Will Newman Headmaster, Casterton Sedbergh Prep School

23 March 2020

Sedbergh School Sedbergh, Cumbria LA10 5HG

Tel 015396 20535 www.sedberghschool.org