

Dear Parents/Carers,

I am writing to update you on our current situation and approach regarding the international outbreak of coronavirus and to assure you that we are taking all appropriate advice. Each day, the department for education issues up to date advice to schools, which we, as a Trust, follow carefully, together with the guidance from Public Health England

We are continuing to take protective measures to safeguard student and staff health, especially around hygiene. We are well stocked with soap, hand gel and cleaning products.

Safeguarding health is of paramount importance to us. This includes safeguarding our students' mental health. It is therefore important that we do not elevate our young people's anxiety around this issue. The proportion of children who catch Covid-19 appears very small and of those that do, the symptoms seem particularly mild. The reason that we are taking the measures outlined above is to play our part in protecting the wider population as children pass on infections to others.

As we enter the Government's 'Delay' phase to prevent spreading of Covid-19, we are putting robust plans in place in the event of an enforced period of closure if advised to by the Government or by Public Health England. In order to keep you informed we've added these links to our websites.

If a closure is put in place, we will inform parents via email and text message (through your latest provided parental contact details) and a message uploaded onto our website. We will then provide work (home learning), for students to complete at home. If a closure occurs, then all home learning will be shown on the individual school's websites and on the Apollo Partnership Trust website. Staff have been carefully planning this work.

In the event of a significant number of our staff needing to self-isolate, with the changing Government advice, then we may need to combine classes or make a decision to partially close one of our schools. In a partial closure we would close for some year groups, but be open to others. We will keep you fully informed of this.

As you can appreciate, the situation is changing on a daily basis, but please be assured we will keep you fully informed. Thank you for your support as we work together to safeguard our students, staff and community.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Julia Patrick'.

Julia Patrick

**CEO**

**Apollo Partnership Trust**