Use of the NHS COVID-19 app
Guidance for Students and Parents

Following the launch of the NHS COVID-19 app we have been asked by the Department for Education that students, parents and staff are advised of its use in relation to our academies. The app is a key part of the country's ongoing coronavirus (COVID-19) response, aiming to extend the speed, precision and reach of NHS Test and Trace in England. The app will complement the overall service by automating some aspects of the process of contact tracing. Working together, NHS Test and Trace and the app are designed to slow the spread of coronavirus (COVID-19) by alerting people who may have been exposed to infection so that they can take action. The app alerts a person if they have been within 2 meters of a person with confirmed COVID-19 for 15 minutes or more. Details of the confirmed case will not be provided.

The app has a check-in feature which enables a venue to register for an official NHS QR code and allows users to 'check-in' to participating venues on their app by scanning that code. Schools and FE providers are **not** expected to create NHS QR code posters for their normal day to day operations and so students will not be asked to check-in at school in this way.

The app is available to anyone **aged 16 or over**. Students in Y11 who are over 16 may download the app if they chose to do so. Where 16 year olds have SEND parents need to decide if they should download the app. Under 16s should not use the app.

Further information on the app, its use and how to access it can be found below:

- Android guide for downloading NHS COVID-19 app
- iOS guide for downloading NHS COVID-19 app
- How to use QR codes to check into a venue
- Terms of use

Action to be taken by students and parents using the NHS COVID-19 app

Those using the app should keep their phones with them at all times, turned on and with Bluetooth enabled. When the phone is switched off the app stops working. The app has a 'pause' function which should be activated when the phone is not with you (left in a locker, etc.).

Students should ensure that phones are set to silent and are kept in pockets or bags. Students should not check phones during lessons. They are allowed to check phones at break and lunchtimes. Should they receive an alert they should proceed immediately to reception and the receptionist will a member of senior staff. The student should show this member of senior staff the message they have received. Parents will be informed immediately and asked to make arrangements to collect the student from school or give permission for the student to make their way home. Students who receive a message confirming contact will be isolated until they leave site. Contacted students should follow instructions from NHS Test and Trace and self-isolate for 14 days. Should they develop symptoms they should seek a test. All confirmed cases should be reported to the academy.

Further information on the NHS COVID-19 app can be found at:

https://covid19.nhs.uk/pdf/introducing-the-app.pdf