



15th March 2020

Dear Parents/Carers/Children/School Community,

With the situation regarding the Coronavirus/COVID-19 rapidly changing I thought it best to email to let you know our plans and to keep you as updated as I can, as the information becomes available. With the safety of everyone in mind, we may need to take a number of steps next week to cancel or postpone upcoming events. I will email again at the start of the week, of any changes to the schedule.

Our position is that we will take action in response to official advice from the experts. Please be aware that we are not party to any information that is not already publicly available and therefore, we continue to monitor and search for information. We will continue to assess the situation closely and, as you'd expect, have contingency plans for a range of potential situations. Schools are strongly advised to follow national guidance and therefore the decision for a school to remain open is based upon the national information. Our school, like every other, will take every precaution it can to mitigate infection, and the safety of our children and community is an absolute priority. Based upon our present information, our school remains open and will respond accordingly and quickly if national guidance changes.

Once again the symptoms to look out for are:

- A new, continuous cough – this means you've started coughing repeatedly
- A high temperature – you feel hot to touch on your chest or back

Public Health England advice is to NOT visit your GP if you or your child are suffering the symptoms but to seek advice first from <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/> or NHS 111 should your symptoms worsen. The current advice for those people who are experiencing symptoms is to self-isolate for seven days. If this is the case for you and your family, please do let us know so that we are aware, thanks.

For any of you who do need to self-isolate, please see the guidance provided at <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-stay-at-home-guidance/stay-at-home-guidance-for-people-with-confirmed-or-possible-coronavirus-covid-19-infection>

School closure has not yet been triggered by the government to be one of the solutions to slowing or containing the spread, but I strongly suspect this may become necessary in the near future. We have plans in place to maintain learning for the children and will be sending work home with them and uploading plans onto the school website. Please let us know if your internet access could be problematic so that we are aware that we may need to make alternative arrangements. It would also help greatly if your contact details are up-to-date and also, should anyone on the emergency contact list for your child be self-isolating and unable to be an emergency contact, please make sure we are aware and provide us with an alternative.

The school is cleaned every day and we have increased the frequency with which we are cleaning door handles, key boards, light switches and commonly used shared areas. Tables and benches are also receiving a sanitised clean every day. All children are washing their hands regularly during the day and from Monday all children will be reminded that all water bottles need to go home for a daily clean before coming back the next day. As an extra precaution all children will wash their hands at the start of the day, when they come into their classrooms or arrive at breakfast club. All staff will also wash their hands as soon as they arrive at school and visitors, although limited, will be asked to wash their hands too. Please continue with these excellent habits and remind your child/children to resist sharing personal items with others.

We will, of course, be in touch if anything else changes and thank you for your support at this challenging time.

Kind regards

Tracey Hart, Headteacher.

Love learning, work together, achieve and shine.

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