



17th March 2020

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Dear Parents / Carers,

Coronavirus Update

Yesterday evening, the Prime Minister announced new measures and advice to the general public in relation to Covid-19. The following advice supersedes all previous advice given and should be read carefully.

If your child is well, they should attend school.

However, if they present with any symptoms;

- *A high temperature and/or*
- *A new continuous cough*

then they should remain at home in isolation for 14 days.

In addition, anyone in the same household should also self-isolate for 14 days regardless of whether they have symptoms themselves.

Moreover, any child who presents these symptoms at school will be isolated and parents will be called immediately.

Also, it is advised to stop non-essential contact with others and to stop all unnecessary travel. The Prime Minister also added that 'We need people to start working from home where they possibly can. And you should avoid pubs, clubs, theatres and other such social venues.'

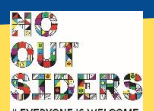
These are wide ranging decisions that will affect all of us in some way. As a school we have made preparations today to enable learning to continue for those families that are isolated from school.

A timetable of support and home learning has been drawn up along with resources for parents and children. For those already in isolation, arrangements will be made for materials to be delivered to your home or emailed to you.

I appreciate that there will be difficult and worrying times ahead for us all. We need to all work together to keep one another safe. As a school we have lines of communication between staff and to you at home that will remain open at all times.

If you need us, we will be at the end of the phone or via e-mail. We should still follow the advice on general hygiene and measures we can take to limit and delay the virus which are to:

1. *Wash your hands with soap and water often – do this for at least 20 seconds,*
2. *Always wash your hands when you get home or into work,*
3. *Use hand sanitiser gel if soap and water are not available,*
4. *Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue or your sleeve (not your hands) when you cough or sneeze,*





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5. Put used tissues in the bin straight away and wash your hands afterwards,
6. Try to avoid close contact with people who are unwell,
7. Not touch your eyes, nose or mouth if your hands are not clean,

As a school we are in regular communication with Public Health England and Department for Education over measures which we as a setting can take in response to the current situation and the situation remains that there is no requirement for school to do anything other than the measures detailed above.

At times such as this, misinformation and speculation can only serve to do more than harm than good, and we are notifying you to ensure that we all comply with government restrictions. I want to be open and transparent about measures we have and will continue to take based on expert advice.

At school we have taken sensible precautions such as;

- Ensure we have enough hand wash for all pupils.
- Taught each pupil in assembly how to wash their hands properly and I would urge parents to repeat this at home.
- Double checked our critical incident plan to ensure it is fit for purpose.
- Distributed posters around the building to raise awareness and promote good hygiene.
- Put COVID-19 on the weekly Senior Leadership Team agenda to discuss updates and any relevant actions where needed.
- Stopped all assemblies; lunch is staggered as usual.
- Cancelled all non-urgent visitors to school and teacher courses. ***This includes secret readers.***
- Cancelled all non-essential whole school activities:
 - Parents Evenings
 - PTFA Chocolate Bingo
 - Easter Service
 - Swimming
- All clubs including paid for external clubs have now now been cancelled until further notice.

The advice continues to state that school should be open for business as usual. We are taking all the precautions possible. Pupils who are well should still attend school.

We thank you for your continued support.

Kind regards,

Mr Hover

