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17th March 2020

Dear Parent/Carer,

I am writing to you with an update on Coronavirus (Covid-19).**As it stands, the school will remain open following Government advice and as yet we have not been informed that there will be any closures. Yesterday the Government announced advice to minimise social contact further and as a school we must respond with appropriate measures to safeguard our staff and students.**

**Self-isolation**

Children who **have a high temperature of 37.8 degrees or more or a new, persistent cough** should now self-isolate for **fourteen days**. **This now includes anyone within a household where a member of the family has shown these symptoms**. Any child who presents at school with these symptoms will be sent home. It is essential that we follow Public Health advice at this challenging time and therefore any child who returns to school before the self-isolation period is over will be sent home and parents/carers will be contacted to collect their child from school.

Staff who are displaying these symptoms must also isolate for 14 days and therefore there may be some disruption to the learning of some classes. We will do our best to minimise any disruptions. As I am sure you can appreciate our staff absence is increasing and the staff who are here are working exceptionally hard to keep things running as normally as possible for our pupils. Therefore it will not be possible for teachers to set work for individual students. However we are taking further steps to plan for future eventualities.

Please note at this time of writing we have **no confirmed cases of staff or pupils** testing positive for the virus.

**Additional measures put in place**

* Following on from measures communicated to parents/carers last week, we have decided to stop all assemblies for the foreseeable future to minimise the amount of time children are in large groups.
* All visitors, including parents/carers will be asked to sanitise their hands before entering the main body of the school.
* All school visits, sporting events and events with Parental Involvement eg Stay & Read, Read & Go etc are cancelled until further notice

We appreciate your support whilst we strive to continue to deliver a high-quality education for your children in such challenging times. We will continue to be guided by advice from Public Health England and the Government and communicate any significant decisions using our website, social media platforms and Parentmail.

Please see the link for more details: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/coronavirus-covid-19-information-for-the-public>.

The Department for Education have also now set up a helpline.  Staff and parents/carers can contact the helpline on:

·         Phone: 0800 046 8687

·         Email: DfE.coronavirushelpline@education.gov.uk

·         Opening hours: 8am to 6pm (Monday to Friday)

I would like to thankyou again for your cooperation, support and understanding during this unprecedented time.

Yours sincerely

JA Armstrong

Head teacher