



Monday 16th March 2020

Dear Parent / Carer

Re: Coronavirus Update.

As I am sure you will appreciate, we are currently dealing with a complex and rapidly changing situation. My first priority will always be the health and safety of the pupils and staff in our school. Now more than ever, this remains our primary focus.

We will do all we can to remain and stay open.

Already in school we have:

- Updated our Emergency Covid-19 Action Plan
- Planning work for all children should the school close.
- Increase handwashing of all pupils, staff and visitors: On arrival, before break time, before lunch and before leaving school.
- Amended our absence policy.
- Increased our cleaning routines throughout the day.
- Water bottles will be sent home daily to be returned to school the next day. Staff will replenish water bottles as needed.

This is an entirely unprecedented situation and we are following official advice from the government and the NHS. This advice is added to on a daily basis and we are monitoring and responding to that as it is published. This official advice will underpin all of the actions we take.

Whilst I appreciate that there will be a wide range of different views about how we should be responding and what action should be taken, I hope you will appreciate that I am duty bound to follow the official advice from the government.

Therefore in addition to the above action, from today the following will apply in order for the school to mitigate against the virus spreading within our school.

1. Absence and Illnesses in children.

- (a) If pupils have a persistent cough or high temperature, they should remain at home for 7 calendar days.
- (b) If pupils arrive and have either a persistent cough or high temperature, we will contact families to collect their child and they must remain home for a period of 7 calendar days.
- (c) If a pupil has an unexplained absence, school will immediately contact the family to ascertain the reason for absence.

2. Suspected symptoms with a family member.

- (a) If a family of a pupil has suspected symptoms, the child can still attend school.
- (b) Please ensure your child is washing his/her hands before leaving home.
- (c) School will continue to heavily monitor your child.

3. Confirmed case with a family member.

- (a) If a family member has a confirmed case of the Coronavirus, the pupil living with that family member must remain home for 14 days.



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Headteacher: Mrs N. Jones BA Ed (Hons) NPQH Chair of Governors: Dr C. Roast School Business Manager: Mrs M. Leask

(b) Please telephone the school to confirm this and we will ensure the necessary actions are taken in school to prevent further infection.

4. Confirmed case with a pupil.

- (a) Parents to immediately notify the school.
- (b) Public Health England Protection Team will contact the school to discuss with the Headteacher what action to take. This will also happen in the event of a staff member being a confirmed case.

5. Family members travelling back from affected countries.

- (a) The list of countries is changing all the time. Please refer to the following website for advice:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-specified-countries-and-areas/covid-19-specified-countries-and-areas-with-implications-for-returning-travellers-or-visitors-arriving-in-the-uk>

6. Reducing contact point activities.

We have taken the decision to limit all planned trips and activities for the foreseeable future, this will include:

- (a) Parents evening will possibly be postponed.
- (b) All non-essential training for staff will be cancelled.
- (c) Year 3 Swimming with Confidence has been cancelled.
- (d) Alverstoke Tennis has been cancelled.
- (e) Class assembly and stay and learn sessions have been postponed.
- (f) Oarsome Chance after school club has been cancelled.
- (g) Whole School Gallery on the 1st April will possibly be postponed.

We will continue to run our in-house afterschool clubs, ladybirds and breakfast club. If this changes we will notify you accordingly.

Please note that the school office will be busy during this unprecedented period. Please can all parents limit phone calls and messages to the school unless absolutely urgent and necessary.

Please ensure all changes to pick up and collection arrangements are planned for in advance and please limit the amount of last minute notifications to the school office regarding changes to arrangements.

I am aware that you may have additional questions, worries or thoughts regarding the current situation. Please can I reassure all parents and carers once again that I am doing all I can to ensure the school remains open. However, I am duty bound to follow all official advice from the Government, Department for Education and Public Health England.

I will of course continue to keep you updated with any further developments as and when they happen. Please refer to the NHS website for all Coronavirus queries: <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/>

Kind regards,

N Jones

Mrs Jones
Headteacher

