

## Learning, Caring, Aiming High – Together

9<sup>th</sup> March 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

I am contacting you following the spread of the coronavirus (COVID-19) in the UK and abroad.

I would like to take this opportunity to outline the preventative measures the school has put in place in order to minimise the spread of infection, in the event of an outbreak within the school.

As per the advice from the government, the school has taken the following actions for infection control:

- Putting up coronavirus infection control measures information posters around the school
- Encouraging good hygiene by promoting the importance of handwashing for at least 20 seconds with warm water and soap in the following circumstances:
  - Before leaving home
  - On arrival at school
  - After using the toilet
  - After breaks and sporting activities
  - Before food preparation
  - Before eating any food, including snacks
  - Before leaving school
- Installing sanitiser dispensers throughout the school
- Ensuring pupils and staff understand that they must cover their cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue away
- Ensuring frequently touched objects and surfaces are cleaned and disinfected regularly
- Calling NHS 111 if someone becomes unwell and isolating any unwell people in a separate room
- Advising people who have returned from category 1 specified countries/areas in the last 14 days to self-isolate for 14 days before they return to school
- Advising people who have returned from category 2 specified countries/areas in the last 14 days to stay at home if they develop symptoms – the full list of category 1 and category 2 countries can be found on the government website.

### **How you can help at home**

As an important part of our school community, I would ask that you encourage good infection control practices, such as thorough handwashing at home and keep your child informed about the things they can do to discourage the spread of infection. Encourage your child to bring a pack of their own tissues to school and talk to them about throwing tissues away once used.

Unless your child has tested positive for the coronavirus (and has not been exposed to anyone with the virus), they should attend school as usual (unless they are too unwell due to an unrelated illness), as per the current government advice.

Also, please make sure you have advised the school of any changes to your emergency contact numbers. It is important we can contact you in the event of any emergency that may occur.

### **What to do if you think your child has been exposed**

If you think your child may have been exposed to or has coronavirus, please DO NOT send your child to school and call NHS 111 (or if they are seriously ill and it is deemed life threatening call 999). Please contact the school on 01384 818220 at the earliest opportunity to advise us on the situation.

We would like to reiterate that these are only preventative measures that are in place to anticipate any occurrences of coronavirus within the school.

There is currently no cause for concern at the school however, we will keep you informed about any developments and ensure we are keeping the school clean to prevent the spread of any virus. We will communicate further updates in the normal way i.e. via Parentmail and on the school website.

Yours Sincerely,

Mrs K Hall  
Acting Headteacher

### Useful Information

Government guidance can be found [here](#).

NHS guidance can be found [here](#)

Public Health Matters guidance can be found [here](#)