



Tuesday 17th March, 2020

Dear parents and carers,

I hope that this letter finds you and your families all well in these extraordinary times.

Further to my email last night, as of late on Monday 16th March 2020, the UK has moved into the next phase of how we look to protect people in the UK from COVID-19 within the “delay” phase of the COVID-19 action plan, which can be found here- <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/next-stage-of-expanded-coronavirus-covid-19-public-information-campaign-launches>.

A press conference was held by the Prime Minister, and the Chief Scientific and Medical Officers on 16th March 2020, who set out the new enhanced approach and reasons for it. There were 4 new actions identified as part of the new approach, which may be required for some weeks:

- 1) Whole household isolation if someone in the household develops COVID-19 symptoms
- 2) Stopping all unnecessary social contact with others and unnecessary travel - this advice is particularly important for people with certain health conditions, people over the age of 70 and pregnant women (see below section on Social distancing advice)
- 3) Those with the most serious health conditions will be contacted directly on Monday 23rd March about further restrictions, likely to be put in place for around 12 weeks
- 4) Advice against mass gatherings, as part of reducing social contact, but also ensuring critical workers can be used instead to support COVID-19 work.

Please do not send your child to school if they are showing either of the symptoms of the coronavirus:

- **A high temperature (37.8 degrees and above)**
- **A new, continuous cough**

The well-being of our children, families and staff is our absolute priority, and we would like to assure you that health and safety has our complete attention. All of our employees are fully aware of the current requirements and we are taking all the precautions necessary in order to protect children and staff at school, including the following:

- We are undertaking additional cleaning of the school site, and staff are thoroughly washing hands and adhering to guidelines.
- Daily collective Worship will now take place in classroom, rather than pupils assembling in the school hall.
- Non-essential visitors to school have been cancelled (some professional visits will still go ahead, for example, visits from the educational Psychologist and School Counsellor).
- Additional cleaning
- **Parent Conferencing meetings planned for 31st March and 2nd April are now CANCELLED.** A written summary of your child's learning and progress will be emailed to parents

and carers on Tuesday 21st April instead, and we hope that teachers will be able to meet with parents later in the summer term.

- We will send home any child who displays symptoms of the coronavirus while they are at school. Please help to keep our school community safe by responding to calls straight away and collecting your child promptly.
- In order to reduce contact between adults, we are politely requesting that adults maintain a distance of 2 metres from one another at morning drop-off and afternoon pick-up to try to prevent spread of the Coronavirus. If you have something private and confidential to discuss with your child's class teacher, please telephone the school office on 01926 339138 or email admin2622@welearn365.com.
- Extra-curricular clubs, breakfast club and after-school club will continue to run as usual, while school is still open. Staff who are running clubs are taking recommended steps to protect children.
- **Although there has been an anticipated increase in our pupil absence figures, 76% of our children have still attended school today. For this reason, teachers will not be providing additional online work for children in self-isolation yet. We are, however, aiming to send you further information about learning from home by tomorrow morning (Wednesday 18th March).**

It is extremely important, as the national situation evolves, that we think about how we can best support the mental health and wellbeing of people affected by the outbreak – individuals, families, workplaces, schools, as well as people who are working hard to protect the health of our communities. Please click on the link below for advice from the Mental Health foundation

- <https://www.mentalhealth.org.uk/publications/looking-after-your-mental-health-during-coronavirus-outbreak>

There is a public Coronavirus helpline **0800 0468687** which is open from 8am to 6pm (Monday to Friday).

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel that you can call the school to talk to myself or a senior member of staff. School will continue to send out regular information and updates to you.

Wishing you all health, safety and peace of mind.

Yours sincerely,



Juliette Westwood
Executive Head Teacher