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Headteacher: Mr P. Birdsall  
Chair of Governors: Mr J. Allen

16th March 2020

Dear Parent/Carer,

I am writing in regards to the current situation regarding Coronavirus (COVID-19).

First of all, I would like to assure you that since the start of the outbreak we have been following all government advice and will continue to do so as part of the broader national effort to limit the spread of the disease. We receive a daily update from the Department for Education with the latest information from Public Health England and have access to Public Health England and Department for Education helplines, as well as support from local services.

We have implemented an enhanced hygiene procedure in school from the outset, which the children, all staff and visitors are following stringently. We also have plans in place for if school closes to limit the impact it will have on the children's education. This includes online learning tasks via TTRockstars, Spelling Shed and Purple Mash as well as additional reading books and paper-based activities, which the children will bring home.

We have had parents contact school regarding their child or family members showing symptoms of the virus i.e. a new and persistent cough and/or a high temperature (37.8 degrees and above). **These are not confirmed cases only symptoms.** In such circumstances the current government advice is:

- If you have symptoms of coronavirus infection (COVID-19), however mild, do not leave your home for 7 days from when your symptoms started;
- This action will help protect others in your community while you are infectious;
- Plan ahead and ask others for help to ensure that you can successfully stay at home;
- Ask your employer, friends and family to help you get the things you need to stay at home;
- Stay at least 2 metres (about 3 steps) away from other people in your home if possible;
- Sleep alone, if possible;
- Wash your hands regularly for 20 seconds, each time using soap and water, or use hand sanitiser;
- Stay away from vulnerable individuals, such as the elderly and those with underlying health conditions, as much as possible;
- You do not need to call NHS 111 to go into self-isolation. If your symptoms worsen during home isolation or are no better after 7 days, contact [NHS 111 online](#). If you have no internet access, call NHS 111. For a medical emergency dial 999;
- You do not need to call NHS 111 to stay at home.

Current advice remains in place: no education or children's social care setting should close in response to a suspected or confirmed COVID-19 case unless advised to do so by Public Health England

The advice **does not** say that family members of siblings within the same household should self-isolate unless there has been a confirmed case of Coronavirus (COVID-19).

This is a fast-moving situation and advice is being updated on a regular basis. Please see: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/guidance-to-educational-settings-about-covid-19>  
There is also a Department for Education Coronavirus helpline on 0800 0468687 which is open to schools and parents.

I hope this provides some clarity and support in what are unprecedented times.

Yours sincerely

Mr P. Birdsall  
Headteacher and Designated Safeguarding Lead

