

Date: 17/03/2020

Dear Parent/Carer,

Following my letter to you yesterday, the Government and health authority have issued further guidance on the evening of 16<sup>th</sup> March. As I said yesterday, I realise that this is a worrying and unsettling time for you and your families. I hope regular information from the school will help to reassure and inform parents, giving the school an opportunity to outline how Government and health authority guidance will impact upon school life.

School remains open, we have had to make adjustments, some of which are linked to staff absence but the team are working hard to support our pupils, families and wider school community. Any decision made in relation to school closure will be in accordance with Government and health authority advice and guidance.

I will outline below the changes to school guidance issued yesterday for your review.

### **Illness at home and pupil absences**

This section replaces the section covering pupil absences from yesterday's letter.

If anyone in the family home (children or adults) are exhibiting Coronavirus symptoms, which include a new or continuous cough and/or a high temperature (above 37.8 celsius), the whole family should stay at home to avoid spreading the virus to others, self-isolating for 14-days.

For anyone in the household who starts displaying symptoms, they need to stay at home for 7-days from when the symptoms appeared, regardless of what day they are on in the original 14-day isolation period.

If you have any concerns regarding your child's health, please use the NHS 111 Coronavirus online service [www.111.nhs.uk](http://www.111.nhs.uk). Those without internet access should contact the NHS 111 service by telephone.

If your child is well and not exhibiting Coronavirus symptoms, and no one else in the household is experiencing Coronavirus symptoms, they are able to attend school as normal.

If a child begins to exhibit Coronavirus symptoms during the school day, they will be isolated and sent home where they, and those living in the household should self-isolate for 14-days.

### **Adjustments to the school day**

This section is in addition to the section on adjustments to the school day from yesterday's letter.

The health and safety of our children and staff remains paramount to us. Further to the adjustments I shared yesterday, as additional precautionary measures to help to prevent the risk of the virus spreading, we are implementing the following:-

- External visits including routine visits like Beach School, school trips and excursions will be postponed indefinitely; and
- Visitors to the school will not be permitted, other than from external agencies and providers supporting children, for example speech therapy and other outreach services.

We will continue to review our adjustments in line with Government and health authority advice.

We are committed to follow the Government's plans and will endeavor to carry on as normal. Your continued support and understanding during this uncertain time is greatly appreciated.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us and we will answer them as best we can.

Yours faithfully

Headteacher