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Tuesday 17th March

Dear Parents and Carers,

Update advice on Coronavirus (COVID-19)

Further to my letter on 13 March, there have been further developments nationally, which have radically changed the response to the virus. Please be aware that this is government advice that we as a school are adhering to.

The most common symptoms of COVID-19 are a recent onset of:

- new continuous cough and/or
- high temperature

Updated self-isolation guidance

- if you or anyone else in the household have any symptoms of coronavirus, **no matter how mild**, then all household members must stay at home and not leave the house for **14 days**. The 14-day period starts from the day when the first person in the house became ill
- it is likely that people living within a household will infect each other or be infected already. Staying at home for 14 days will greatly reduce the overall amount of infection the household could pass on to others in the community

You and all household members should remain at home. Do **not** go to work, school, or public areas, and do **not** use public transport or taxis.

- if you can, move any vulnerable individuals (such as the elderly and those with underlying health conditions) out of your home, to stay with friends or family for the duration of the home isolation period
- if you cannot move vulnerable people out of your home, stay away from them as much as possible
- if you have coronavirus symptoms:
 - do **not** go to a GP surgery, pharmacy or hospital
 - you do not need to contact 111 to tell them you're staying at home
 - testing for coronavirus is not needed if you're staying at home



- plan ahead and ask others for help to ensure that you can successfully stay at home and consider what can be done for vulnerable people in the household
- wash your hands regularly for 20 seconds, each time using soap and water, or use hand sanitiser
- if you feel you cannot cope with your symptoms at home, or your condition gets worse, or your symptoms do not get better after 7 days, then use the [NHS 111 online](https://www.nhs.uk/111) coronavirus service. If you do not have internet access, call NHS 111. For a medical emergency dial 999

For further information, please follow the following web addresses:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-guidance-on-social-distancing-and-for-vulnerable-people>

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-stay-at-home-guidance/stay-at-home-guidance-for-households-with-possible-coronavirus-covid-19-infection>

In school

In school we have a number of children and their siblings who are not in school, due to the above symptoms, or the risk of catching the above symptoms. They, and their household, should now be in self-isolation, following the government advice, for 14 days.

At the time of writing, one member of staff, Miss France, is self-isolating. This is not because of any symptoms being displayed, but because of the underlying health conditions that she has which puts her at risk of severe illness should she catch it. This is following government advice.

Work and work for those self-isolating

During the coming days teachers will be putting together packs for the children to work through should they be off school and feel up to it. Encourage your child to read regularly – either with you – or for the older ones, alone. There will also be website suggestions for the children to access some learning activity. We are also exploring posting work online using School360 that the children can access it. We are also aware of several companies who are allowing a wider access to their online resources. More information about all of the above will be sent out later in the week.

Events seem to be changing on a daily basis and I would encourage you to watch the daily briefings held by the government to keep up-to-date with the very latest advice.

Thank you, as always, for your support and cooperation in trying to follow the latest government advice and enabling us all to keep our community as safe as possible.

Yours faithfully

A Waterfield
(Headteacher)

