



Willow Lane Community Primary School

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16th March 2020

Dear Mums, Dads and Carers,

RE: Covid-19/ Coronavirus

As the situation regarding the COVID-19 outbreak changes on a daily basis, we want you to be assured that we are continually monitoring advice and guidance from Public Health England and the Department of Education. The latest updates state:

- *staff, young people and children should stay at home if they are unwell with a new, continuous cough or a high temperature to avoid spreading infection to others. Otherwise they should attend education or work as normal.*
- *if staff, young people or children become unwell on site with a new, continuous cough or a high temperature they should be sent home.*

If staff or children have been informed to self-isolate by NHS 111 or their doctor then they must follow this advice. It is useful for home to tell school if you receive this advice and, in particular, we ask that school is informed of any confirmed cases within our school community (children, families and staff) so that we can take the necessary actions.

You may feel there are other reasons why a child should not be in school and in these cases we ask you to contact either myself or Mrs Banks to discuss your concerns.

As you will be aware, many schools are cutting back on activities to focus on their 'core business' – delivering education. It may be disappointing to many of you but we are also minimising risk by reducing the number of people coming in to school and the number of people going out of school. In reality this means:

- Yellow Class trip to 'Bring Yer Wellies', Red Class trip to 'Fairfield Orchard' and the Green Class trip to 'White Scar Caves' have been postponed.
- Swimming lessons – Years 3 and 4 – have been cancelled until the end of this term.
- Yellow Class Assembly will be postponed until next term.
- Visitors coming to school, eg University groups and some meetings, have been postponed/cancelled.



- Training offsite for staff cancelled with a focus on day to day education.
- WOOSH will still be open at the start and end of the day and places are to be booked as per normal.
- After school clubs – Speed Stacking, Activ8, Tag Rugby, Ball Skills, Gardening, Cooking etc cancelled from now until the end of term.
- Safeguarding and SEND meetings and sessions will still continue.

You will have heard about schools planning to deliver the curriculum if there is a school closure. Many secondary schools have online learning classrooms already established as well as large IT teams to manage this. We do not and this isn't a viable or effective option at short notice. We recommend children use their online maths 'Times Table Rockstars', read their book, complete their creative homework and take part in some physical and creative activities where possible.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for how you have clearly managed your children's understanding and wellbeing in relation to this outbreak. Children have come to school positive, happy and calm and on visiting every classroom it has been reassuring to see them engaged, happy and learning.

Thank you for your continued support,

Mel MacKinnon
HEADTEACHER

