



Tuesday 17th March 2020

Dear Parent/Carers,

I am writing to update you on how the school will be managing the latest updates and advice from the Government.

I understand that everyone is worried as the situation begins to escalate but it is essential that we keep things as normal as possible for the children to alleviate their worries. However, it is important for us to now put in further measures to reduce the risk of spreading infection. We also need to bear in mind that the symptoms will be mild in most cases but those individuals with underlying medical conditions are more at risk of a severe reaction.

The following changes will be made over the next week

Lunchtimes

We will be staggering lunchtimes so that fewer children will be in the hall at the same time. If the weather stays fine children with packed lunches will eat outside.

Assemblies

The assemblies for 3D, 5A and Bumblebees will be cancelled. These will be rescheduled after Easter.

Parents & Visitors in school

1. We ask that parent helpers do not come into school for the time being.
2. We are also reducing the number of visitors.
3. We will not be covering staff absence with supply teachers. Therefore classes will be split if staff are absent.

Clubs

1. Breakfast Club and After School Provision will go ahead as normal – staff are making the children wash their hands regularly and these are run by school staff. These services are essential for working parents.
2. This week, Wednesday 18th March, will be the last Holy Communion class for this term.
3. All other after school clubs will end this week, Friday 20th March.
4. Swimming for year 4 has now been cancelled.

Other school events

1. The recorder and African Drumming concerts have been cancelled and will be re-scheduled after Easter.
2. The Easter Liturgies will be cancelled.
3. The reception trips to the Litten have been cancelled.
4. The year 1 trip to Kew Gardens has been cancelled.
5. The Book Fair has been cancelled.

Yesterday we shared child friendly information with the children about the virus and are doing our best to reduce their worries. We continue to ensure that they wash their hands as often as possible and that tissues are used to catch sneezes and put in the bin.

Latest guidance regarding Coronavirus

Public Health England have advised the following:

The most common symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19) are recent onset of:

- new continuous cough and/or
- high temperature
- if you have symptoms of coronavirus infection (COVID-19), however mild, stay at home and do not leave your house for 14 days from when your symptoms started.
- please keep the school informed of any absences.

We will need to consider the point at which we have to close the school due to staff shortages. There are some contexts which will automatically lead to this – not enough staff to safely cover first aid or lunchtime supervision. If staff start to self-isolate or fall ill (cough or fever), then we will initially split classes to avoid bringing supply staff (who will have been to many other schools) into the school. If the number of staff absent from school is such that we cannot safely supervise the pupils then we will need to consider closing the school. This will only be done in extreme cases. It is our intention to keep the school open as long as possible.

In the event that we are instructed to close the school, parents/carers will be informed of arrangements at the earliest opportunity. We are developing plans to make work available through [myUSO](#) and MyMaths. We are also in the process of putting together Home Learning Tasks for children.

The stories in the media can sound alarming if you listen to them over and over again. Remember that the overwhelming majority of people who get sick from COVID-19 will feel unwell for a few days and then make a full recovery.

The more we all do now to keep ourselves, rested, fit and well through rest, diet and exercise the more likely that if we do get sick the quicker our bodies will fight off infections.

If you are worried about your symptoms or those of someone in your household, please call NHS 111. **Do not go directly to your GP or other healthcare environment.**

We will continue to act swiftly in the best interests of our children and staff following official guidance from the local authority and Government.

Below are links to the most reliable information about the Coronavirus, from Public Health England. This is the advice that we are following.

Updates on COVID-19: <https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus>

Guidance for educational settings: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/guidance-to-educational-settings-about-covid-19/guidance-to-educational-settings-about-covid-19>

Travel advice for those travelling and living overseas: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/travel-advice-novel-coronavirus>

The DfE's helpline for schools, staff, students, parents and carers can be accessed by phone or email: Phone: 0800

046 8687 Email: DfE.coronavirushelpline@education.gov.uk

Opening Hours: 8am-6pm, Monday to Friday

Yours sincerely,



Ms K. Coll / Headteacher



HEALTHY SCHOOLS
LONDON

