



Headteacher: Mrs V Giliker

March 17th 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

Coronavirus Update – 17th March 2020

The headteachers of Buxton and surrounding villages met again yesterday, and this morning have drafted this updated letter to clarify our joint approach to the virus, Covid-19. As you will know from the latest briefing, the government has now issued new guidelines.

The advice remains that schools should only close if they are specifically advised to do so, with additional precautionary measures in place to try to delay the peak of the outbreak and protect those members of our community who are at most risk of developing serious health issues as result of the virus.

These new measures differ from the previous advice. From today, if your child OR ANYONE IN YOUR HOUSEHOLD has a new persistent, dry cough and/or a temperature above 37.8 degrees they should not be in school and should remain at home for 14 days. NHS 111 advice should be accessed as specified via the government. Please inform school via the normal communication methods if you are required to self-isolate. All absences for this purpose will be coded as 'exceptional circumstances' and will not affect a child's attendance. As schools, we reserve the right to send children home if they appear poorly or are coughing. This may seem over-cautious but we are trying very hard to stay open so we need our school population to stay as healthy as possible.

Schools are open for teaching and learning as usual and children who are fit and well should continue to attend. We continue to have rigorous cleaning procedures in place for all of our school premises and are continuing with our hand washing regimes.

We have created a special area on our school website, where work and activities can be accessed for children who are at home. Please click here to access this area:

<https://www.harpurhill.derbyshire.sch.uk/work-for-home>

We have decided to postpone all events involving additional visits and visitors, including assemblies and shared staff meetings / courses. If at any point Public Health England requires us to close, we will inform you straightaway. Please be aware that individual schools may close if local staffing levels reduce significantly. Each school in the cluster is in the process of contingency planning so that we can ensure our children are safe and can continue to learn.

Thank you for your continued support.

Yours sincerely,

V Giliker (Headteacher)



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