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17th March 2020

Dear Parent / Carer,

Covid-19 Update

Since my letter to you yesterday, the advice from the government has changed.

Symptoms you still need to look for are:

- ★ A new, continuous cough and/or
- ★ A high temperature.

If any member of your household has any of these symptoms, everyone living in the household must stay at home for 14 days.

The current advice for schools is still to remain open. However, it is possible that this may change over the coming days and weeks. We recognise that this will cause some disruption to families, so we will give you as much notice as possible.

The child focused measures we are taking in school to ensure your child is safe, are:

- ★ Daily assemblies to ensure all information is shared with children clearly and timely
- ★ Assemblies also focus on how to ensure individuals are clean and safe
- ★ STARS lessons this week are focusing on personal hygiene
- ★ Tomorrow, all pupils will take part in a whole school Science lesson on 'What is a Virus?'
- ★ Extra antibacterial hand sanitisers have been installed for pupils to use between lessons
- ★ Hand washing is encouraged before school, at all break times and before leaving the site
- ★ Extra cleaning measures, especially within the catering facilities, have been put in place.

Pupil Absences

If your child is unwell with any of the symptoms listed above, please ensure that you do follow the government guidance and do not send them to school. Please inform the school office by text, with the reason for absence (whether they are ill, or whether you are self-isolating), unless you are advised that the school is fully closed.

Self-Isolating

If a decision is made for families to self-isolate, please ensure that the timeframes are adhered to. If anyone has already let us know that they are self-isolating, we wouldn't expect to see them back in school before the Easter holidays. If the school was to close, we will provide work packs for all pupils. If pupils are self-isolating, we will not be providing work packs.

Hand Washing

The most important thing individuals can do to protect themselves is to wash their hands more often, for at least 20 seconds, with soap and water. Public Health England recommends that in addition to handwashing before eating, and after coughing and sneezing, everyone should also wash hands after using toilets and travelling on public transport. There is a short NHS film for guidance: <https://youtu.be/bQCP7waTRWU>

Live Covid-19 National Guidance

<https://www.gov.uk/government/topical-events/coronavirus-covid-19-uk-government-response>

Yours sincerely,

Emma Glover | Vice Principal

