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*Headteacher:*  
Mrs Lisa Bland

*"Be The Best You Can Be"*

## COVID-19 (Coronavirus) update 13 March 2020

Dear Parent/Carer

### **School remains OPEN**

**We are not aware of any cases of suspected or confirmed coronavirus (COVID-19) at our school.**

Following the government COBRA meeting yesterday, England has now moved to the 'delay' phase. This means advice to schools and families has now changed. **School will currently stay open**, and you are advised to take these actions if your children display any of the following symptoms:

- a. Fever
- b. Persistent dry cough
- c. Shortness of breath

**If any of these symptoms are present your child must not come to school for seven days.**

### **School Actions**

I would like to reassure you that the health and wellbeing of pupils and staff is our top priority. Having carefully considered the current situation, we are going to take the following measures with immediate effect:

1. **In school pupil events** are going ahead as normal and if anything changes we will communicate this via the school website and text message.
2. **Trips and visits to high population areas will be cancelled** or postponed in line with the government's guidance. We will endeavour to communicate any changes made in a timely fashion (we are taking advice about the Brewery Arts Dance and will update on Monday).
3. **All sports fixtures will be cancelled.**
4. **We will minimise visitors to school.** Anyone who does come into reception will be asked to sanitise their hands and be shown a copy of the Public Health England leaflet 'Advice on coronavirus for places of education'.

### **Health Advice**

If pupils display mild symptoms parents/carers are asked not to call 111 unless these symptoms become severe or you are worried in any way that you or your child may have contracted coronavirus.



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If you have contacted the NHS, please then notify the school about the action you have been asked to take.

The current guidance is that if there is a confirmed case in the school then Public Health England (PHE) will advise on the appropriate and proportionate steps to take. Where a pupil is self-isolating due to contact with a confirmed case the current national advice is that schools should remain open.

The most important advice is to limit the spread of the virus. Health-care professionals stress the importance of hygiene and hand washing. They recommend:

- Wash your hands often with soap and water
- Catch it, Bin it, Kill it: Covering your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throwing the tissue in a bin
- People who feel unwell should stay at home

Students, staff and visitors should wash their hands:

- After using public transport
- Before leaving home and on arrival at school
- After using the toilet
- After breaks and sporting activities
- Before eating any food, including snacks

We will continue to monitor the coronavirus situation closely and keep in touch with you. We will follow the advice from Public Health England and the Department for Education. The Department for Education's advice page for schools can be found using the link below:

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

We have put together plans for continued education in case we need to close and we will let you know the plans in due course.

Yours sincerely  
*Lisa Bland*  
Headteacher