



Monday 16th March 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

Following the latest advice all three schools remain open. When the national or local context changes or significant policy changes are announced we will notify you all via letter, text and the websites.

In the era of the internet it is as easy for families to keep up to date with the medical facts and advice as it is for the schools. The link below will provide extensive and up to date information on the virus and advice on what to do if the following symptoms occur.

- new continuous cough and/or
- high temperature

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-stay-at-home-guidance/stay-at-home-guidance-for-people-with-confirmed-or-possible-coronavirus-covid-19-infection>

If your child develops a new continuous cough and /or has a high temperature then please notify school by telephone and do not send them as they need to self isolate for 7 days.

Please ensure we have the most up to date contact details including any additional people you wish us to contact in case of emergencies.

It is important to state that the Government policy of self-isolation does not equate to the virus being present and that testing, outside of hospitals, will not take place. Therefore, any rumour or talk of people having the virus will be treated as speculation unless supported by medical evidence and reported directly to the school through the public health channels. All absences should be reported through the usual channels.

The published advice states that, for most people, coronavirus (COVID-19) will be a mild infection. However, children in particular may be anxious and need reassurance and we will seek to do this at school with our usual calm approach. I would appreciate your support in re-iterating that the infection is generally a mild one in children, as the Chief Medical Officer has repeatedly stated, and in encouraging your child to keep infection at bay by washing their hands regularly and using tissues to blow their nose. We are fully aware that at some point in the future schools may be ordered to close and have contingency plans in place for ensuring that children can learn from home.

To support us in preparing work for children to do at home it is vital that we have an **up to date email for all families** so that the junior staff can support the families through the dojo system and the infant staff through emails. We will planning using our online resources and encouraging activities that are not all screen related. At the bottom of this letter there is a return slip for you to complete if YOU DO NOT HAVE ACCESS TO THE INTERNET AND/OR A DEVICE FOR YOUR CHILD/REN TO WORK ON.

Today we have made the decision to make some changes across the schools based on the current situation with coronavirus to reduce risks.

From tomorrow Tuesday 17th March the following changes to school routines will be in place –

Executive Head Teacher: Mrs Jan Pierce

Deputy Head Teacher: Mr Adam Butterworth Assistant Head Teachers: Miss Jess Knighton & Miss Mel Bentley

All schools

- all assemblies to be cancelled . This is to keep the gathering of children to a minimum.
- all rooms well ventilated
- children have been and will continue to be reminded of the 20 second rule for hand washing and coughing and sneezing into tissues or elbows and washing hands after
- all children to bring in their own their water bottles to use
- any slips, letters or money to be brought into school by the children to pass to the office
- enhanced cleaning measures are being put into place

Longwood - morning routine – Both classes to enter school using the door they exit through at the end of the day. Parents to leave children on playground and send children in on their own. If you have a message for the office phone in.

John King - morning routine - all three doors to be used at the beginning of the day so the families are spread out. Families to use the same doors as at the end of the day. Parents to leave children on playground and send children in on their own. If they have a message for the office phone in.

Kirkstead - morning routine - children to use the same exit at the end of the day in the morning. Families are encouraged to leave the premises at the end of the day by the two usual gates giving each other space.

The following events have been cancelled this week

- Group of Y6 trip to Freddie's – Tuesday 17th
- Key Stage One dance festival – Tuesday 17th
- Infant Maths in Action – Wednesday 18th
- Junior sponsored Race for Life – Wednesday 18th
- Cross Country Final – Thursday 19th
- Class 4 swimming – Friday 20th
- After school clubs – handball, Kurling and Goal ball

Finally, can I offer you my personal assurance that we will do all that we can to keep the quality of teaching and pastoral support high during this challenging period and will inform you promptly should there be significant developments.

Yours Sincerely

Jan Pierce
(Executive Headteacher)

.....

Name of Child _____ Class _____

I do not have access to the internet

I do not have access to a device for my child/ren to work on

My current email is _____ Parent name _____

Executive Head teacher: Mrs Jan Pierce

Deputy Head teacher: Mr Adam Butterworth Assistant Head teachers: Miss Jess Knighton & Miss Mel Bentley