



Dear Parents/Carers

Coronavirus update

Further to the letter sent on Monday, I am writing to update you all on our situation as it stands this morning.

We now have six members of staff self-isolating for fourteen days, following the official advice issued, and we will certainly have more staff in this position as the week goes on. There may come a time when we simply have insufficient staff to keep the children safe and at that point, school will have to close to some classes and potentially close completely. I am making these decisions, in conjunction with our Chair of Governors, as the need arises and keep you all fully informed.

We have had many phone calls asking us for advice; we cannot give you advice about your child's symptoms and will direct you to NHS 111. We have to follow the same national advice as was given yesterday; if a member of your household is showing symptoms, the whole family must self-isolate for fourteen days. We will be sending home all children who appear unwell and we will turn your child away if we know your family should be self-isolating. Please bear in mind that many of our staff also have underlying health conditions and care for vulnerable family members and we are trying to keep ourselves as well as possible, not just for the sake of your children, but also for our own families.

For the moment, we are trying to keep everything as normal as possible for the children who are in school. It is impossible to keep them all two metres apart at all times but we are taking as many precautions as we can, such as ensuring a plentiful supply of soap/sanitiser and hand towels. We have a dedicated phone line where we can seek advice directly from Hertfordshire County Council or the DfE, so we are as well-supported as any other school and we are following the advice we are given. In the background, we are planning for closure, preparing packs of work and also how we can support children entitled to free school meals in the event of prolonged absence.

These are unprecedented times and the situation is changing hour by hour. I know that many of you are feeling anxious about the situation and the endless conflicting advice circulating on social media. I would like to thank you all for your support so far and to assure you that we will keep you updated as our situation evolves.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Maria Green
Headteacher