



16th March 2020

RE: COVID update

Dear Parents/Carers,

Last week, the Prime Minister and the Government announced that they have moved into the 'Delay' phase of the UK Government's plan to tackle coronavirus, COVID-19.

Whilst the Government has stated that schools are not being directed to close at this stage, the advice given may well impact schools. We are trying to keep Sunnyhill open for as long as possible. Therefore, it is very important that everyone follows the most up to date advice, which is that anyone with

- 'a new, continuous' cough or
- a high temperature

needs to self-isolate for 7 days. **Please do not send children into school if they have either of these symptoms and do not come to school yourself if you also have either of these symptoms. Anyone displaying these symptoms, including staff, will need to leave the school site as soon as possible.**

Parents/carers need to have plans in place to quickly collect their child if they are asked to collect their child from the school. We have to work together in order to reduce or slow down the potential impact of the virus.

It is also possible that school staff may be required to self-isolate. This could have serious implications on how the school operates over the coming weeks. I have a very detailed risk assessment that includes the Minimum Staffing Requirements (MSR) for the school to be able to operate, so that we are able to stay open.

We have taken some immediate steps to minimise risk to the children and school community. They are:

- All educational visits requiring us to use public transport have been postponed
- Swimming is cancelled for the rest of this term
- Cut vegetables which are available for children to help themselves in the line are removed from the hall. The salad bar will remain in place as usual
- The science exhibition will be postponed until after Easter
- Parent/carers evenings will be postponed until w/c 27th April (except Y6 where we will need to make other arrangements).

Please be aware of the following emergency strategies which may be necessary in order to keep the school open:

- In the event of many teachers being absent the school may have to suspend the normal curriculum
- More than one class could be supervised in the halls.
- If the number of children attending school decreases significantly, children from different classes may be grouped together.
- I may have to close the nursery, as it is non-statutory, in order to release staff to cover elsewhere.

These are unprecedented times and the information and guidelines from Government are being updated at least daily. I will keep you all informed of any updates via our school text and email systems and the school website.

It is vitally important that the school has all of your up to date telephone numbers and email addresses, so please contact the main school office if you need to update any contact information. I may have to send out information with very little notice, so please look out for messages from the school.

Head Teacher: Sarah Wilson
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Finally, it is very important that we all protect the children from worry and upset. We have been reassuring the children and we will continue to do this.

Thank you for your cooperation and on-going support.

Kind regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Sarah Wilson". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal flourish underneath.

Sarah Wilson
Head Teacher



Artsmark
Gold Award
Awarded by Arts
Council England

