

Friday 13<sup>th</sup> March 2020

Dear Parents,

### Corona virus update

You will have heard yesterday that the government has taken the decision not to close schools in the UK at this point, believing that stricter controls of this nature need to be timed carefully if they are to have the best impact. We are therefore open for business as usual. You will also be reassured to know that, as of yesterday, there are no cases of Corona virus in any Wandsworth school.

However, advice on what to do should you or your child become ill has changed. If you or your child are showing symptoms of either

- A high temperature; or
- A new continuous cough

you should stay at home for 7 days. You should not go to your GP surgery, pharmacy or hospital, and you do not need to contact NHS 111. You should only contact NHS 111 if you feel you cannot cope with your symptoms at home, your condition gets worse, or your symptoms do not get better after 7 days.

If you or your child do have a high temperature or a new continuous cough and you are therefore required to self-isolate for 7 days, the following guidance has been issued by the NHS

DO:

- try to keep at least 2 metres (3 steps) from other people in your home, particularly older people or those with long-term health conditions
- ask friends and family and delivery services to deliver things like food shopping and medicines – but avoid contact with them
- sleep alone if possible
- regularly wash your hands with soap and warm water for at least 20 seconds
- try to stay away from older people and those with long-term health conditions
- drink plenty of water and take everyday painkillers, such as paracetamol and ibuprofen, to help with your symptoms

DO NOT

- have visitors (ask people to leave deliveries outside)
- leave the house, for example to go for a walk, to school or public places



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Part of Graveney Academy Trust

The advice about what to do if you or your children have had close contact with someone who has tested positive for Corona virus has not changed. That advice is that you should notify public health authorities via NHS 111 who will provide guidance on what steps you should take.

We anticipate that the numbers of staff and pupils needing to self-isolate is likely to increase over the next few days and weeks and that this may have an impact on how we manage the delivery of the curriculum. Should the government require us to close in the future, we will arrange for your child to access suitable work to do at home and will let you know what our expectations are regarding the completion of work at home, how that work can be accessed by your child and how we will remain in contact with you.

In the meantime, please continue to work with your child to ensure that they are aware of and are putting into practice the basic virus prevention methods (regular hand washing, avoiding touching your face, coughing into a tissue and disposing of it quickly etc). We will also be reinforcing these messages at school.

Yours sincerely,

Pat Andre-Watson

Headteacher

