

Springfield Primary Academy

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Dear Parents / Carers,

Coronavirus update – Tuesday 17th March

The coronavirus (Covid-19) situation continues to change on a daily basis. During these uncertain times, we want to reassure you that we are doing all we can to keep all members of our school community safe. We follow the daily guidance issued by the Department for Education, the Government and Public Health England and will continue to do so.

As of today, we can confirm we have no children or members of staff with a confirmed case of coronavirus. However, some members of the school community have displayed symptoms.

What are we doing at Springfield Primary Academy to minimise the risk/spread of coronavirus?

- **Additional cleaning takes place during lunchtime**
- **Children encouraged to wash their hands regularly for 20 seconds minimum**
- **Apart from year 6 boosters ALL after school clubs are now being cancelled**
- **ALL parent meetings and workshops are being cancelled**
- **Swimming lessons for the remainder of the academic year have been cancelled**
- **Following all Department for Education, Public Health England and REAch2 guidance**

Attendance

So far, this week we have had a higher absence rate than usual. Most absences reported by parents were because their child / children were displaying symptoms associated with the coronavirus (high temperature and a new persistent cough).

Please note that the Government guidance has changed this evening. You are now directed to stay at home for 14 days if anyone in your household has either a high temperature or a new and continuous cough.

What to do if your child /children develops coronavirus symptoms

As you may be aware from updates in the media, only people who have been admitted to hospital with severe symptoms will be tested for coronavirus. This makes it a challenging task for schools to know if they have confirmed cases. This means we are reliant on parents and staff following the updated guidance and we thank everyone for their cooperation with this.

We are tracking all absences and will not allow children to return to school until fourteen days have passed since the first day of absence. Your support and understanding on this matter is vitally important and much appreciated.

Communication and next steps

At present, the Government is not enforcing mass school closures and, along with all other schools, we will remain open unless directed to close by the Government or Public Health England.

Please be mindful that high-levels of rumour and speculation can cause anxiety and distress within the school community. We will communicate any important updates and changes to the current situation at the earliest opportunity and there is no need to contact the school on a daily basis to check if we are open. If any planned events have to be cancelled or postponed then we will notify you via text, twitter and our website.

Teachers are currently preparing learning resources and materials for children that we will send home in the event of an enforced closure. We have had requests for work to be sent home for children who are self-isolating. If your child is currently self-isolating and is well enough to learn at home then we recommend lots of reading and discussion about the text. If you require additional work, please see attached list of free online education resources. Please note that we will not be able to send learning resources home on an individual and/or daily basis.

Thank you again for your support and understanding.

Kindest regards,

Sasha Taylor

Head of School