

Thursday 12th March 2020

## Dear Parents/Carers,

I write to update you on the schools position in the management to mitigate future risks against any government decisions going forward in regards to COVID-19 Coronavirus, as guided by Public Health England.

As of Tuesday, 10<sup>th</sup> March, Covid-19/coronavirus has been declared a 'category four' major incident: this now means that the Department of Health and Social Care, Public Health England and NHS England and Improvement now take up the reins as Gold command and are directing the national response. The National Plan comprises of four main phases: **contain, delay, research and mitigate**. The incident is now in the latter stages of the 'contain' phase, moving towards the 'delay' phase.

As a result, we have gone through a process of outlining the risks posed to the school should the Department for Health instruct school closures and potential stages leading up to this.

The schools risks and mitigation processes are outlined in our risk assessment documents, which can be found under the 'Coronavirus Virus Advice' tab, on the schools website.

The 'Pandemic Risk Assessment', is the latest review document with practices that will be applied, should the school be required to close.

Until such instruction, it is business as usual.

Please continue to follow the guidance provided.

### Symptoms of coronavirus

The symptoms of coronavirus are:

- a cough
- a high temperature
- shortness of breath

But these symptoms do not necessarily mean you have the illness.

The symptoms are similar to other illnesses that are much more common, such as cold and flu.





# How to avoid catching or spreading germs

There are things you can do to help stop viruses like coronavirus spreading.

#### Do

- cover your mouth and nose with a tissue or your sleeve (not your hands) when you cough or sneeze
- put used tissues in the bin immediately
- wash your hands with soap and water often use hand sanitiser gel if soap and water are not available
- try to avoid close contact with people who are unwell

#### Don't

- do not touch your eyes, nose or mouth if your hands are not clean
- Avoid shaking can and physical contact

### Check if you need medical help

NHS 111 has an online coronavirus service that can tell you if you need medical help and advise you what to do.

Use this service if:

- you think you might have coronavirus
- in the last 14 days you've been to a country or area with a high risk of coronavirus see above
- you've been in close contact with someone with coronavirus

## Use the 111 coronavirus service

Information:

Do not go to a GP surgery, pharmacy or hospital. Call 111 if you need to speak to someone.

Thank you for your support.

Yours sincerely,

Ms A. Parker

Lead Headteacher