

13<sup>th</sup> March 2020

Dear Parent/Carer

You will be aware that on Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> March the Government moved the action for tackling COVID-19 from Containment to Delay.

Delay means slowing the spread, pushing it away from the winter season and lowering the peak impact.

It has made clear that schools will continue to remain open. However, the Government has put a restriction on international school trips so we have made the decision today to cancel the planned trips for History (Battlefields) and MFL (Paris). If you have paid any money towards these trips then we will process a full refund as soon as practicably possible. For all other domestic trips planned we will be in touch soon with further information.

**The Government has released** new advice that if you develop symptoms of coronavirus infection (COVID-19) – **a continuous cough or a temperature of 37.8C (100F) or more** - stay at home and do not leave your house for 7 days from when your symptoms started, even if you feel well.

**PHE have issued new guidance on: Stay at home guidance for people with confirmed or possible coronavirus (COVID-19) infection. This is available on the Gov.uk site.**

**The advice states:**

- **Do not go to work, school or public areas, use public transport or taxi – or even walk.**
- **Those with even mild symptoms of infection should stay at least two metres away from other people in their homes, sleep alone and if possible, use a separate bathroom.**
- **You do not need to call NHS111 to go into self-isolation. If your symptoms worsen during home isolation or are no better after 7 days contact [NHS 111 online](#). If you have no internet access, you should call NHS 111.**

Therefore, if your child suffers from a cough or has a temperature of 37.8C (100F) or more – please ensure your child does not come to school and self isolates at home. Please call the school absence line and follow normal absence procedures. They should remain at home until 7 days after the onset of symptoms. After 7 days, if they feel better and no longer have a high temperature, they can return to their normal routine. If they have not had any signs of improvement and have not already sought medical advice, then contact NHS 111 using the information above.



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As a school we continue to **Promote good hand and respiratory hygiene with our pupils:**

- Frequent hand washing with soap and water for at least 20 seconds
- If soap and water are not available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol
- Catch coughs or sneezes with a tissue, throw the tissue in the bin and wash hands
- Avoid touching eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands

We also:

- Follow a routine cleaning programme with emphasis on frequently touched objects and surfaces
- Provide adequate supplies for good hygiene, including clean and functional handwashing stations, soap, paper towels, and alcohol-based hand sanitiser
- Follow PHE (Public Health England) guidance regarding school closures if necessary

We will continue to give you regular updates as and when necessary, we are working closely with our colleagues at Blackburn with Darwen Council and Public Health to ensure the correct information is shared.

We have set up a page on our website which will contain updates as necessary regarding school information and events in response to this evolving situation. Please follow the link and check this page regularly in case of further information.

<https://www.pleckgate.com/covid-19-latest-information/>

Many Thanks



M Cocker  
Headteacher