



13<sup>th</sup> March 2020

Dear Parents,

We would like to give you an update on our Coronavirus procedures following the various emails that you have already received from us. We would like to stress that we have no confirmed cases of COVID-19 in the school. If there is a confirmed outbreak, you will be informed immediately and we will follow advice from Public Health regarding closure and confidentiality.

As it stands we have the following procedures in place:

- All children have been taught about the importance of personal hygiene and how to wash their hands properly. Children wash hands first thing in the morning, before and after break, before lunch and at the end of the day. We also wash our hands if we have been outside for PE.
- Children have been reminded to always use a tissue to blow their nose and have been taught – *Catch it, Bin it, Kill it*. They have also been shown what to do if they do not have a tissue and also the importance of covering their mouth if they cough.
- Cleaning staff have been briefed about the enhanced cleaning measures required at this time.
- Extra supplies of cleaning products and tissues have been purchased and distributed to each class.
- Children are taught the importance of regularly drinking water.
- All visitors to the school are asked to regularly sanitise their hands.

Any pupil or member of staff who has come into contact with somebody who has been **confirmed** with COVID-19 will be sent home and asked to self-isolate and call 111 for further advice.

In the event of a confirmed or suspected case within school, please be assured that we have lockdown procedures in place to isolate either the pupil, staff member or others in a designated area.

**We are now implementing the following Government guidance in that any adult or child displaying these symptoms must stay at home for a period of 7 days. We must adhere to these guidelines.**

The most common symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19) are recent onset of:

- a **new continuous cough and/or**
- a **high temperature**

Please follow the link below for full Government guidance

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-stay-at-home-guidance/stay-at-home-guidance-for-people-with-confirmed-or-possible-coronavirus-covid-19-infection>

In the worst-case scenario where schools are asked to close for any length of time, staff will provide a 'Home Learning Pack' for the children.

Decisions regarding school trips are reviewed on a day to day basis and are made following advice from the particular venue, advice from Public Health England and our own thoughts on the matter. We will always keep you informed of any decisions taken. **At present, no trips will be undertaken.**



The Government's new Coronavirus action plan recognises that as we start to see more cases in the UK, and more widespread community transmission of the virus, further measures to reduce the contact people have with each other may be needed. These measures, sometimes referred to as "social distancing", could include things like temporarily reducing socialising in public places.

As a result, we have decided to postpone some of the upcoming events to ensure that the hygiene procedures we have in place can be maintained and that we are not gathering in large groups in small spaces.

#### **THE FOLLOWING EVENTS WILL BE POSTPONED:**

- **Parent Partnership Meetings**
- **Class assemblies**
- **Year 4 and Year 5 SRE meetings** (the delivery of these lessons in class will also be postponed)
- **Enfield Dance Festival**
- **Class Showcases**
- **Year 1 Song Sack performance**
- **Rock Steady performance**
- **Maple Class Steel Pans performance**
- **Borough sports events**
- **Friends of Bowes cake sales**

We will continue to keep you updated regarding any other events which may need to be postponed and will share an update following the Easter break. We have every intention of rearranging many of the above events once we are clearer about the national situation.

Year 1 Bikeability, Year 3 swimming lessons and individual music lessons in school will continue as planned, unless circumstances change.

The DfE have launched a new helpline to answer questions about COVID-19 related to education. Staff, parents and young people can contact the helpline as follows:

Phone: 0800 046 8687

Email: [DfE.coronavirushelpline@education.gov.uk](mailto:DfE.coronavirushelpline@education.gov.uk)

Opening hours: 8am to 6pm (Monday to Friday)

This letter is not intended to cause any alarm or undue worry, it is purely to give you the confidence that we are taking the necessary steps and are ready to do all we can to keep the children and the whole school community safe. Once again, thank you for your calm and considered response to this situation. We will keep you up to date with any news or information that needs to be shared.

Yours sincerely,

Paul Barraclough  
Executive Headteacher

Gulev Karayel  
Head of School