



Dean Field Community Primary School

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Dear Parent/Carer

Re: Coronavirus concerns

Further to my message last week on Seesaw regarding the coronavirus I am writing to update you. I understand these are very worrying times and with high media attention and the situation constantly changing; we are all feeling very uneasy.

At Dean Field we take the health and safety of our pupils and staff very seriously, so we're sharing guidance from Public Health England on steps you should be taking. This is the same advice given to all schools nationally. This has been shared for parents via our website already last week and to all pupils and staff. Remember there are useful tips and videos on our website around hygiene and washing that you may find useful to share with your children.

To prevent the spread of infection, make sure you and your children follow these general principles to prevent spreading any respiratory virus:

- Wash your hands often – with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, or an alcohol-based sanitiser if soap and water aren't available
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick. If you feel unwell, stay at home and don't attend work or school
- Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in a bin
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces in the home
- If you're worried about your symptoms, please call NHS 111 – don't go directly to your GP or other healthcare environment

The current government advice can be found here:

<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>

The government are advising anyone presenting with a temperature and a new persistent cough to self-isolate. If you are unsure about this, then seek guidance from your GP.

As a school we have a risk assessment in place with a contingency plan if the situation escalates. Right now we have moved from stage 2: prevention to stage 3: delay. The Risk assessment can be found on our school website. We have taken the decision to postpone any upcoming trips and teachers will be in touch about this, along with our upcoming parents' evening which was due to take place on Wednesday 18th March. I apologise for any inconvenience this may cause.

The guidance at the moment is for schools to remain open but to reassure you further I have asked all teachers to prepare home learning packs in the event that the school were to close. **These are only to be completed in the event that school were to close.** You should all be given any online learning links and passwords your child may need in the next few days to access the various online learning platforms we access. There is a list of website links on our school website and these have also been shared on Seesaw.

I will keep you informed via Seesaw and email of any changes.

Kind Regards

Fiona Pether
Headteacher

