

The Grove Primary School

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Headteacher Ms Karen Martin



Monday 16th March 2020 1.30pm

Dear Parents and Carers,

Re: Coronavirus - Additional School Actions

As announced by the government last week, the current advice is that there will **NOT** be a blanket closure of schools at the moment. This is advice is subject to change at short notice. Please be assured that we will be following updated advice as it is given.

However, some very clear advice has already been issued:

If your child or a member of staff shows symptoms of Coronavirus (prolonged dry cough and/or high temperature) they are to stay at home for SEVEN days. If in doubt, please use the 111 coronavirus service <https://111.nhs.uk/covid-19/> for further guidance.

During these very uncertain times we have been considering some simple measures to put in place to reduce the possibility of the spread of infection.

The following measures were put in place last week

- Additional cleaning programme
- Children and staff wash their hands on arrival at school and after playtime, lunchtime and PE sessions.
- On entry to the lunch hall all children will use hand cleansing gel.
- Handwashing demonstrations and practice – Information on handwashing, use of tissues and what to do when sneezing and coughing have been discussed in class assemblies and will be revisited regularly.

The additional measures have been put into effect from today

- Adults and children will not shake hands with one another/visitors
- Disposable cups will be provided in the classroom where a child does not have/or cannot find their water bottle
- Hand cleansing gel will be provided at the school office for visitors to use before entering the school and they will also be asked to wash their hands
- We will send children home for seven days if they are showing symptoms and ask that they stay at home for 7 days.
- We will be using screening measures (thermometer) if we are worried about a high temperature
- Staggered entry to the lunch hall to reduce the numbers of people in one place
- Additional tissues will be available in classrooms and in other learning spaces
- School assemblies and parental events have been cancelled until further notice

To support the school during this time we ask that parents support us by

- Ensuring your children wash their hands before coming to school in the morning and at the end of the day when they get home.
- Ensuring that your child remains at home if they have been in contact with anyone who is awaiting results of a coronavirus test and not return until a negative result is received
- Keep your child at home if they begin to show any of the listed symptoms
- Ensure your child brings a named water bottle to school
- **Updating the office with your current phone number and email so that we can contact you if needed.**

I want to reassure you that The Grove has a staged and sensible risk assessment which we are working through and keeping under daily review. If a directive is given by government for schools to close, we will be in touch to provide details about how aim to support your child with their learning.

We are taking these measures to **delay** the spread of the virus and hope parents support and understand WHY we are having to do this given the circumstance is unprecedented and extremely serious. I will be in communication with you if the situation changes.

Thank you for your continued support.



Ms Karen Martin
Headteacher

Mr Simon Virr
Chair of Governors