

16th March 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

We are writing to update you about what the schools in our Trust are doing in response to the Coronavirus.

Firstly, we immediately put into place a very strict handwashing regime. All schools purchased additional handwashing products and sanitisers. We are following Governmental advice and children are washing their hands regularly. Can we please praise our children as they have all been following routines and their behaviour has been excellent.

The current advice if you or your children are unwell or have symptoms of the Coronavirus is:

To support the delay of the spread of the virus, the Department for Health and Social Care has asked anyone who shows certain symptoms to stay at home for 7 days, regardless of whether they have travelled to affected areas. This means people should stay at home and avoid all but essential contact with others for 7 days from the point of displaying mild symptoms, to slow the spread of infection.

The symptoms are:

- A high temperature (37.8 degrees and above)
- A new, continuous cough

You do not need to call NHS 111 to stay at home. If your symptoms worsen during your stay at home period or are no better after 7 days contact NHS 111 online at 111.nhs.uk. If you have no internet access, you should call NHS 111. For a medical emergency dial 999. This will help to protect others in your community while you are infectious. We will not be testing people who are self-isolating with mild symptoms.



We will be sending home children who develop high temperatures and we ask you to assist us by following the advice above. If you believe siblings may be affected we would advise that they follow this advice too.

In the event of school having to close we have plans to send work home with the children. We will be letting you know how you can access additional learning activities for your children (including use of web sites). The schools are working closely together across the Trust to share ideas and resources. Please be assured we have contingency plans for every eventuality and we will communicate with you.

Please keep checking the Trust Coronavirus website for the latest information:

https://www.asst.org.uk/coronavirus-advice

We receive daily bulletins Monday- Friday from the Department for Education and we update the website regularly with this advice.

Finally, I would like to thank parents, carers, our staff, pupils, Governors and the Trust Board who are all working together to ensure that we are looking after our school communities in this difficult time. We will all keep communicating to ensure that the latest information is shared.

Thank you for your support,

Melanie Barrow,

CEO