

Tuesday 17th March 2020

Corona Virus (Covid 19) Update

Dear Parent/Carer

In order to best support every member of our school communities in these unprecedented times, we will be providing regular updates for you in relation to the Corona Virus. We know that one of the most difficult things to cope with is uncertainty and lack of information, so we will do our utmost to give you the answers that you need in order to make informed decisions.

We receive daily updates from the Department for Education and Public Health England and will, at all times, be complying with all guidance and requirements from them.

The current advice is that schools in England will be staying open but clearly this is subject to daily review and we will inform you immediately of any change. In the meantime, we are putting in place contingency plans for all learners to be able to continue to access education if the advice changes and we do need to close schools.

We are putting measures in place from today, Tuesday 17th March, to minimise children's exposure to the virus, whilst seeking to provide reassurance and routine to the children by maintaining as much normality as we can.

To this end, we are cancelling all school trips and visits. Visits from those outside the immediate school community are being ceased, this including peripatetic music tuition. Any large gathering involving parents or family members are being stopped with immediate effect. This will include parental and celebration assemblies and any school concerts or performances. While we are hugely appreciative of the support from volunteers and readers coming into school, we will need to suspend all such activities until we notify you otherwise.

All meetings that safeguard the well-being of children and are therefore classed as urgent will continue, including meetings involving social care, health professionals or the emergency services. If you need to speak to your child's class teacher or the Head of School, this is, of course, still appropriate.

All activities that enable the normal, day-to-day functioning of the school, including sports coaches who enable teachers precious preparation time, will continue. There will be no change at present to nursery, breakfast clubs, and after-school clubs run by school staff or to school lunch provision.

For now, as per the information in your latest text from schools, please keep your child at home if they develop a fever or new, persistent cough. Please inform the school of the absence and tell us whether they are showing the potential symptoms of Corona Virus.

If you, or another member of your family develop such symptoms, please follow the NHS and government advice and self-isolate. This will mean keeping all members of the family who have



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been in close contact with that individual at home. If you have more than one child, they will all need to be kept at home until the 14 day quarantine period is complete.

The Trust's Senior Leaders will meet again on Wednesday to review the situation and will keep you informed of any changes to the advice or guidance given.

Yours faithfully,

Suzanne Flack

CEO, The Redstart learning Partnership