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13th March 2020

Dear Parent/Carer,

Further to a letter which was sent out by The Hayfield School yesterday, we have taken the decision to explain our current position in relation to the coronavirus outbreak. The school has been monitoring advice and guidance daily from both the Department for Education and the Local Authority. We want to take a sensible approach and not cause panic.

Precautionary measures from Friday 13th March until Friday 24th April

- Continued reminders to children about hygiene and handwashing.
- Extra time given for handwashing before lunchtime
- Use of antibacterial hand gel before lunchtime
- Key Stage assemblies rather than whole school assemblies

Postponed events:

- The additional parents evening planned for Mrs Wood's class
- School visits
- Visitors to school
- Easter disco
- Easter service in church has been cancelled

Advice from the DfE:

Children should be kept away from school if they display any symptoms of:

- Dry or chesty cough
- Fever/high temp of 39 degrees or above
- Shortness of breath/tightness of chest

From now on, any pupils or staff who get a general chesty cough should go home, ring 111 for an assessment and self-isolate for 7 days. If the cough continues beyond 7 days, they need to ring 111 again for a further assessment.

In the event of enforced school closure by the Government

At the time of writing this letter there is no indication from the Government relating to an enforced national school closure; however if this were to happen, the following will apply:

A text message will be sent to all parents and carers at the earliest opportunity along with the website being updated. We are mindful that such an announcement could hit the media before the school finds out. In this event please **do not contact the school**. Please rest assured we have procedures in place to communicate with staff, students and families.

Children who are entitled to Free School Meals

Further information will be sent to families as to how the school will reimburse should this be necessary.

School work

By Friday 20th March, the school website will contain links to learning activities for children to access in the event of an enforced school closure.

Year 6

We know Year 6 might worry about how this will impact on their SATs. Should there be a school closure every school in the country will be affected in the same way. That said it is imperative they do not waste any moment of study should the school be closed. If the school does close, rest assured that we will do everything we can to support every student.

Communication and updates

This will be via the school website and through ParentPay communication. Please try to avoid contacting the school directly. Any updates will be posted on the school website on the 'Whole school news' blog page so we would advise that you check this regularly.

These are unprecedented times and we are closely monitoring the situation. We want to protect everyone in school and in the community. We thank you for your patience and understanding. In the meantime, please look after yourselves and your family.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs J Jenkinson (Headteacher)

