



17 March 2020

Dear Parents and Carers

Following the latest updates from the Government at 5pm on 16th March 2020, I am writing to you to advise the next steps you should take if you have any concerns around Covid 19. As you will be aware, the communications and advice are changing rapidly. The advice received at 2pm from the Department for Education varied greatly from the 5pm notices announced by the Prime Minister.

Subsequently I feel it only fair to try and clarify the position we find ourselves in.

Firstly, if anyone in your household has any symptoms – a new continuous cough or high temperature 37.8 degrees or higher - then the whole household will need to self-isolate for 14 days. Please inform your school if this applies to you.

Secondly, if you, your child or anyone in your household falls into a vulnerable category you are advised to take extra care.

According to the Public Health England's (PHE) definition, a vulnerable person is classified as:

- anyone with underlying medical conditions or pregnant;
- those with weakened immune system as result of ongoing medical treatment, such as chemotherapy, or health condition which may suppress your immune system;
- older people (>65 years);
- those with long-term conditions such as cancer, diabetes or chronic lung disease.

The decision to protect your family and any vulnerable household members is completely yours. Please make your own assessment and use your knowledge of the medical issues pertinent to the vulnerable person in question to make your decision. Please contact your school to discuss any concerns further.

As mentioned in my first letter on 12th March, each of our schools have prepared 'home learning' packs for any of our learners facing the prospect of an extended duration away from school. You will receive these directly from your school should the need arise.

I very much hope that you are all able to keep safe and healthy.

Yours faithfully,

Chris Hill

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