



Headteacher: Mrs S J Taylor

16th March 2020

Dear parents / carers

Re: Coronavirus – the response from Hirst Wood Nursery School

As per our communication on Friday 13.3.20 the government's guidance on the coronavirus has changed from the 'contain' phase to one of delaying the spread of the virus. We'd like to reassure you that at Hirst Wood Nursery School we're taking all of the necessary steps to protect our community and are continuing to follow official guidance from the government and Bradford Local Authority.

What's the current situation?

The **school remains open** – this is the current official guidance that we've been given. All school functions continue to run as normal, including Sunshine Club before and after school provision.

The Government advice last week was largely expected and included a greater emphasis on self-isolation; all people with flu-like symptoms - a fever above 37.8 C or a persistent cough - should self-isolate (stay at home, away from other people) for seven days.

What we're doing to protect and support pupils and staff

All children are handwashing every day at the start of each session; this will continue before they have snack, milk and lunch. We have stocked up on antibacterial liquid soap and tissues. Should a child feel ill during the School day, we will call you and ask if you could pick them up as soon as possible. We have implemented an increased cleaning routine with door handles being sanitised daily and all hard surfaces being anti-bacterially cleaned.

We will send home any child or adult with a fever or persistent cough. If this should happen, the advice is that self-isolation should then follow for a period of a full week. This will obviously affect children, parents and staff and therefore could impact on the day-to-day running of the school. If or when we find ourselves in this situation, the following actions may be taken:

- ✓ Putting classes together with shared staff
- ✓ Dividing classes between teachers

At this point we are being proactive including preparing for national school closures. We have put some measures in place to continue your child's teaching and learning and a range of resources will be shared with parents to use at home.

What we need you to do

If you have recently changed your mobile number or email address could you please inform the office as **soon as possible** via email to office@hirstwoodnsc.co.uk or telephone on 01274 584368. Come and collect your child straight away, if we ask you to (we'll contact you if they become ill with either a temperature or a new, continuous cough).

We would also ask that you continue the handwashing routine implemented at School with your children at home and ask all adults to wash their hands regularly too.

What happens if the School has to close?

Hirst Wood Nursery School will only close if we're either officially advised to do so or we don't have enough staff to run the school safely. In the event of this happening we will let you know via Parent Mail, Bradford Schools Online www.bso.bradford.gov.uk and our School website www.hirstwoodnsc.co.uk

Please keep in mind that we're only sending out this information to help the school community prepare. There are currently no plans to close.

Finally, please can I ask you to speak to us directly if you are worried or concerned or have any further questions. Be assured that if there is something we all need to know or if there is something that potentially increases the risk for you or your child we will share that information appropriately and act upon it.

Thank you to everyone for your continued support of the school team during this time, it is very much appreciated. Whatever challenges or changes we may face in the next few days / weeks I am sure that we will meet these together and I thank you for your continued support and understanding.

Kind regards

Jayne Taylor

Jayne Taylor
Headteacher