



New Close Primary School  
*An Acorn Education Trust School*

Executive Headteacher: Mr S Porter  
Headteacher: Mrs L Kilminster

14th February 2020

Dear Parents

You will all be aware of the ongoing situation regarding the Novel Coronavirus (now called Covid-19) but with half term arriving we thought it might be a useful time to update you on the way in which the school is responding and the precautions that we are taking to prevent an outbreak of the Coronavirus amongst our community.

The UK Chief Medical Officers have raised the risk to the public from low to moderate but the risk to individuals in the UK has not changed. We are following developments closely and taking advice from Public Health England and other local health professionals, including the Local Authority.

In line with national guidance, we would advocate a common-sense approach to symptoms. If your child develops signs of a respiratory infection or flu-like symptoms which can include a sore throat, fever or difficulty breathing, we would advise you to contact the NHS via their 111 service. Do not take them to the GP. Pupils who have developed symptoms as described above should not be sent to school until advised it is safe to do so; this may be after a period of self-isolation.

Staff will ensure that pupils are aware of the need for regular handwashing and repeat this information regularly in class.

If you have plans to visit mainland China over the half-term or Easter holidays, or indeed have recently travelled to that area, please can you inform me of this at your earliest convenience and make sure that you have consulted the advice from the Foreign & Commonwealth Office. Indeed, we strongly suggest that families with members who are visiting any part of South East Asia, should consult the Foreign & Commonwealth Office advice which currently suggests that anyone who becomes symptomatic after returning from the following countries should self-isolate: Thailand, Japan, Republic of Korea, Hong Kong, Taiwan, Singapore, Malaysia, Macau.

Clearly, we will continue to monitor the situation and to keep you updated as and when necessary.

Yours sincerely

Mrs L Kilminster  
Headteacher

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