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### **Coronavirus Update #14**

5<sup>th</sup> June 2020

Dear Parents,

It has been another unusual week in school as we've adjusted again to another new 'normal' with children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 6 returning to school along with increasing numbers of vulnerable pupils and children of key workers. Before this week we rarely had over 40 children in school each day, while this week we have had between 83 and 99 in each day.

I understand how difficult it has been for many of you in deciding whether to send in your child or not. These are uncertain times and we hear so much conflicting evidence. If it is any reassurance for those of you still undecided, the children who have been in this week, and the parents who Mrs Pike and I have spoken to on the gates, have all been very happy. The children have enjoyed being back, meeting their friends and staff. Parents have been happy to see children returning to learning and a greater structure to their day. Staff have been reassured by the safety measures we have put in place and while we will never totally eliminate any risk, I believe we have done the best we can.

Our approach throughout is to provide a balance between eliminating the risks on the one hand while not scaring the children on the other hand with draconian measures that will increase anxiety and inhibit teaching. We have started on the journey of teaching more children again. A part of this is a sensible acknowledgement in our opinion that we can never force children to stay 2 metres apart at all times (despite our best gentle efforts) if they are going to learn and develop emotionally.

Ask your child about their own personal bubble. With the little ones we are using this image to help them pretend they are inside their own personal bubble. If they get too close to someone else's bubble then it stretches and if they get too close it might pop. This is helping them to keep their distance.

Please note the drop off and collection times below. There are some small changes to the drop off times. Please remember it is just one parent per child on the school site at a time.

*KINDNESS RESPECT RESPONSIBILITY ASPIRATION*

Parents of children in Reception and Year 1 should collect their child from outside the classrooms. For all other year groups, please either wait on the pavement at the bottom of the slope or in the circular soil area at the top of the slope. Teachers will send your children out or bring them down to you in staggered groups. To further help with social distancing please don't wait on the slope at the front of school. Thank you.

Group	Drop off	Collection
Reception	8:55-9:10am car park	2:45pm car park
Y1	8:55-9:05am front slope	2:45pm front slope
Key Worker and VP	8:45-8:55am front slope	3:05pm front slop
Y6	9:05-9:15am front slope	2:55pm front slope

Remember you can keep up to date with all the smiles and news from school and home learning on the school website under 'LET'S SMILE' or [click here](#) for a quick link. As teachers juggle home learning and teaching in school, you can see stories and photos from the school bubbles as well as from home. Hopefully this helps your children feel a bit like they're keeping in touch with their friends if they haven't seen them for a while. Just a reminder that all the advice for home learning can be found under 'HOME LEARNING' on our website or [click here](#) for a quick link.

If your child enjoys learning about space, the UK Space Agency has published a collection of space related educational resources that you might like to use at home. You can find them here: <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/space-related-educational-resources-for-home-schooling>

### Domestic Abuse

Have the challenges of recent weeks made life really hard for you as a family? Will the next stage of change with children returning to school be better or worse for you?

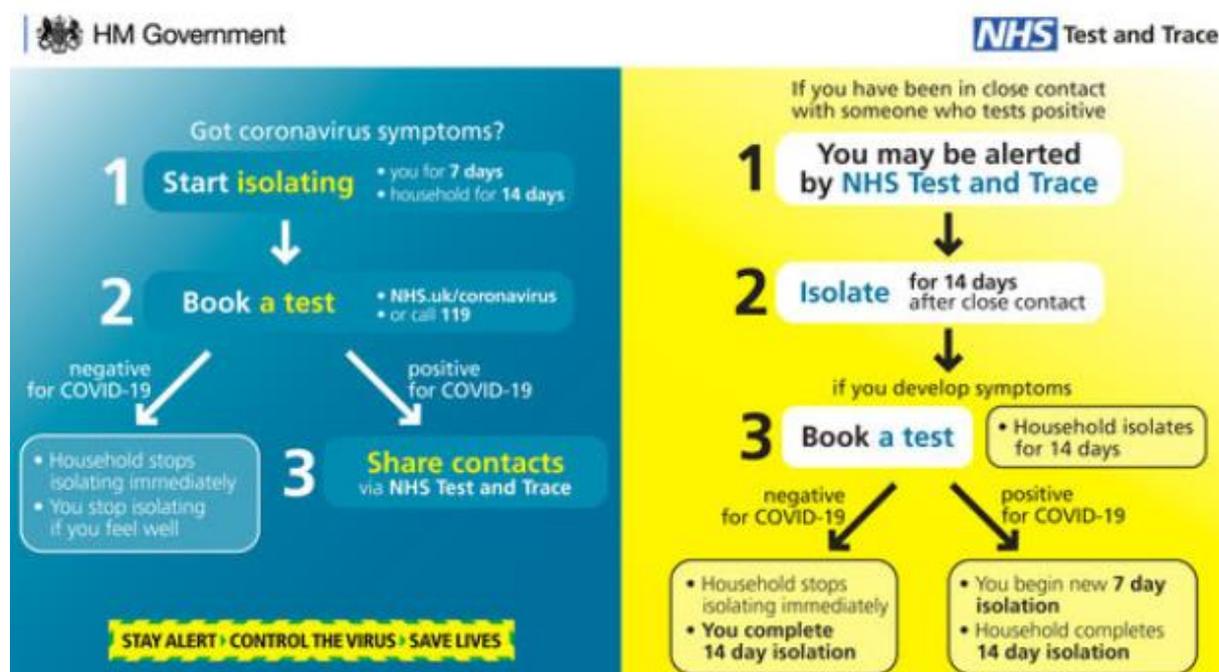
Domestic abuse is something that happens over time. It's about one person having control over another and this doesn't need to be physical. If someone is controlling your finances, who you see, what you wear, or if the threats they make to you mean you make decisions you wouldn't normally make, that isn't OK. Many people don't realise they are living with domestic abuse and don't know that there is advice, information and help they can access. [Are You OK is a website](#) that provides more information on domestic abuse and sexual violence and has a [directory of local](#) and national services. [The Victim Care Unit](#) can also signpost to support services and gives access to the Victim Support 24/7 webchat facility.

**Remember if you need a safe space** you can ask someone at the pharmacy section of Boots or please do speak to myself, Mrs Pike or another member of staff at school. Always phone the police on 999 if you or your family are in immediate danger.

## Test and Trace

For the latest information on *test and trace*, follow the link:

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/testing-and-tracing/nhs-test-and-trace-if-youre-contacted-after-testing-positive-for-coronavirus/>



## Covid-19 – Stay Alert

The key message is to **stay alert** which means you must stay at home as much as possible, work from home if you can, limit contact with other people, keep at least 2 metres apart from others if you go out and wash your hands regularly.

The message about symptoms has changed slightly to include a loss of taste or smell as well as having a new and continuous cough or a high temperature. In this case stay at home for 7 days if you live alone, stay at home for 14 days if you live with others, including all household members. Only use NHS 111 if your symptoms get worse or are no better after isolation. Guidance on what to do while staying at home if you have suspected coronavirus can be found here by clicking this link to the [NHS website](#).

**The most up to date guidance for parents can still be accessed via this link and it includes lots of questions and answers that you might find useful:**

*KINDNESS RESPECT RESPONSIBILITY ASPIRATION*

**<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/closure-of-educational-settings-information-for-parents-and-carers>**

Department for Education helpline for parents - phone: 0800 046 8687,  
Email: [DfE.coronavirushelpline@education.gov.uk](mailto:DfE.coronavirushelpline@education.gov.uk), opening hours: 8am to 6pm (Monday to Friday) and 10am to 4pm (Saturday and Sunday)

Updates on COVID-19 can be found here: <https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus>

For games and resources about good hygiene and bugs, try the e-bug website which is being run in conjunction with Public Health England. [Click here](#).

**Updated handwashing advice, including video, can be found here:**

**<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/coronavirus-covid-19-information-for-the-public>**

Very best wishes to you and your families,



Tim Hughes (Headteacher)