

17.03.2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

We recognise that this can be an unsettling time and would like to update you on information and actions at school regarding the Coronavirus.

First of all we have shared this [linked document](#) with the children to help explain the coronavirus and to ensure that they have all heard the same message.

Secondly, given the announcement yesterday evening from government about avoiding social contact we have also taken the decision to postpone any activities that would involve anyone apart from the children and staff. These currently include Easter Mayhem, the Fun Run at both schools and the Easter Service and Firl Factor at Firle.

We will keep everyone updated as we receive information from ESCC however following the briefing this evening by the Prime Minister concerning new measures to be taken in response to the escalation of the coronavirus in the UK, the new advice is:

- If a member of a household displays either of the symptoms associated with coronavirus (fever or a new, continuous cough), ALL members of the household must self-isolate.
- The period of self-isolation for a household in which any member has either symptom is 14 days.
- Everyone is advised to undertake increased social distancing and to avoid nonessential travel and gatherings.
- Those over 70 years of age; all people with some pre-existing conditions; and pregnant women, are in a group defined as especially vulnerable; these groups will be asked to take increased measures to shield themselves from getting the virus.

We do have some families self-isolating and it is clear that in the days to come this may increase. The school will authorise cases of self-isolating.

Teaching staff at both schools are meeting tomorrow to discuss procedures if the government enforce school closures. This will include setting up class pages on our school websites, with links to learning activities and tasks. This is something we had planned to do but have brought it forward due to the current situation. Both schools subscribe to Mathletics so please make sure that you know your child's log in. If you are not sure of this please ask their class teacher for it.

We will also look at other options to help support those who are vulnerable to see what we can put in place. Please can you let the school office know if you do not have access to laptop or desk top at home.

Please be assured that we will do our best to keep school open in the meantime and support the children in any way we can.

Thank you for your support,

Yours sincerely,



Mrs Rachel West  
Executive Headteacher



Mrs Debra Vice- Holt  
Chair of Governors