

17th March 2020

Dear Parents/Carers

Following the Government's update yesterday, we wanted to reassure you regarding the situation in our schools.

As always our first priority is the health and well-being of all of the Rivers family and as such we are taking every precaution and following the advice from the Department of Education (DfE) and Public Health England (PHE).

Current guidance remains that schools stay open; however, it is possible this advice may change as the spread of Coronavirus continues. If we are required to close our schools, due to government direction or staffing structures being compromised, we will take the necessary steps to ensure you are informed of the closure promptly.

As previously advised should the school be closed for a number of days, we intend to continue setting learning for pupils, with clear instructions, examples and explanations. It is an expectation that pupils will continue learning wherever possible. We accept that not all pupils will be able to complete daily tasks due to possible limitations and extenuating circumstances, but hope to avoid as much disruption to learning as possible.

In the event that we do close the school, fully or partially, you will be informed via text message and email and advised on how long we expect the closure to last. Please check that you have provided us with your most up to-date contact details to ensure you receive all updates and any correspondence regarding a closure. If you need to provide us with new details, please contact your school's office.

As such, our advice for parents continues to be; there is no reason to keep your child away from school when they are fit and healthy unless you have been advised otherwise by a medical practitioner, such as your GP or NHS 111.

We continue to encourage regular washing of hands for more than 20 seconds with soap and water as this remains the most effective action we can all take to prevent the spread of the virus.

We know this continues to be a very difficult time but we hope that this letter gives you some comfort that we are making the best possible preparations and in the meantime continue to operate a full and normal school day, welcoming your children to school each and every morning.

We would again urge you to keep up to date with the latest advice and guidance available. Links have been provided below for your information.

Yours sincerely



Kate Brunt
CEO

Public Information

Links to all the latest advice and guidance on the Worcestershire County Council website at:
<http://www.worcestershire.gov.uk/coronavirus>.

Latest advice from the Government

<https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus>

Advice for Education Establishments

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/guidance-to-educational-settings-about-covid-19>

Department for Education Coronavirus Helpline

Now available to answer questions about COVID-19 relating to education and children's social care.

Staff, parents and young people can contact this helpline as follows:

Phone: 0800 046 8687

Email: DfE.coronavirushelpline@education.gov.uk

Opening hours: 8am to 6pm (Monday to Friday)

