

Dear Parents,

As some of you are aware, we have a suspected (unconfirmed) case of a child portraying symptoms of the virus, so I thought it prudent to update you all. Since being informed of the situation, we have been in communication with the parent and have sought advice from the appropriate authorities. Please note, our current situation is very different to the situation at Hindsford CE which prompted them to close for 2 days. School will remain open tomorrow, unless the situation or advice changes.

The authorities have informed us that due to the specific nature of our situation that a deep clean is not required and school should remain open. We will continue to monitor the situation and make decisions based on current information and advice. In the meantime, please consider your contingency plans in case school is required to shut. I am asked to remind you that anyone over the age of 60 is in the 'at risk group'.

We will be making contact with parents of children with underlying medical conditions to advise further. If your child has a condition and we have not contacted you, please contact the office from 8am on Monday morning.

School has an Action Plan / Risk Assessment for this situation, which can be found at:

Please ignore the last page regarding work to be sent home, as this is for an enforced prolonged closure and will of course change depending on the requirements placed upon school and parents and the length of closure.

I appreciate this is a difficult time for us all, especially with so much information being circulated. The advice is still the same. Remind children and adults of good hygiene and reduce unnecessary contact. Washing our hands regularly and thoroughly is still the best advice for limiting the coronavirus. The importance of this measure cannot be overstated. We will of course review things in the morning. We may have to postpone this week's events – Sponsored walk, assembly etc... We will update you all, once a decision has been made.

I am in contact with the Local Education Authority and am receiving daily updates from the Department of Education and the Department of Public Health. We are acting on the most up-to-date information and advice in regards to the situation and have extended our emergency planning. 'Work From Home' protocols are in development in case school is required to close.

The health and wellbeing of all of our children, families and staff is at the forefront of procedures and planning and we will continue to work with precision and focus in ensuring the highest standards of care are maintained for all in our care and in our school community.

Please continue to monitor your child and contact the office if your child begins to show signs of the symptoms. Self-isolation has also become one of the lead pieces of advice regarding those who have the infection or suspect they may have contracted it. If symptoms become present over night, please keep your child off school and inform the office.

Latest advice, is that children are to bring in their own water bottles. Use of communal cups is to be curtailed for the time being.

Our best wishes and hope for a speedy recovery have been sent to the child.

Thank you for your continued support.

Kind Regards

Mr McDermott