

Dear Parent/Carer

### **Coronavirus (COVID-19)**

As coronavirus (also known as COVID-19) continues to spread, we would like to explain how we are responding to the global health crisis, and the steps that we can all take to reduce the spread of coronavirus, while continuing to run school as normally as possible.

### **What you can do to reduce infections spreading**

You should encourage your children to wash their hands often and thoroughly with soap and water. In particular, after going to the toilet, before eating or handling food, and when they get home. In addition, please ensure that your child:

- Covers their mouth and nose with a tissue or sleeve (not hands) when they cough or sneeze;
- put any used tissues in the bin straightaway and wash hands immediately after handling used tissues;
- try to avoid touching their eyes, nose or mouth if they have not washed their hands recently; and
- Try to avoid close contact with people who are unwell;
- All children will be expected to bring their own water-bottle into school, helping to avoid cross-contamination (Chancel water bottles are available to purchase at £3 each, via ParentPay).

### **Advice regarding what to do if you, your child or a family member falls ill**

If you develop:

- a fever, particularly a high temperature (i.e. a temperature of 37.8 degrees or over); and/or
- a continuous cough

Children must not attend school and must self-isolate for seven days. You should report this absence from school by adhering to normal school absence reporting procedures. It is very important that you follow the Government's advice at [www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-stay-at-home-guidance](http://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-stay-at-home-guidance) during self-isolation.

You may be self-isolating in some circumstances in which you have no symptoms, including if you, or your child have:

- been in contact with a confirmed coronavirus carrier; or
- Recently travelled to a restricted area.

If you are ill and in self-isolation, children should not attend school, this will not affect your child's attendance.

Given the current global health situation, we must all be prepared for being unable to attend school, or potential school closures. In view of this, we have set up a page on our school website: <http://chancelprimary.co.uk/> entitled **Coronavirus Home Learning Page** with links to a wide range of educational websites. All class teachers are preparing home-learning packs and guidance to support learning at home. We are hoping to provide further support and guidance, should the need arise.

In light of the Government's advice with regard to the containment of this virus, we are taking the following steps:

### **Sporting Events**

Sporting events will not go ahead if cancelled by the sports provider/venue, or if there are insufficient pupil numbers. Progressive Sports are continuing to provide school-based PE and after-school clubs.

### **Booked Events**

We are in contact with all external event organisers, to establish whether these events are still going ahead. If these events are taking place, we will assume all pupils will be in attendance, unless we hear otherwise – refunds will only be issued if the event is cancelled by school.

### **Menu Changes**

Mrs Kent, our school cook, has been assured that there should be no significant changes to the menu. We will of course inform parents, if there are any significant changes to meals listed on the menu.

### **Deep Cleaning**

School is continuing to be cleaned each day, with additional anti-bacterial wipes available for use as required. All children are being encouraged to wash their hands regularly in school.

### **Events Cancelled – Up To Easter**

The following events, organised by school staff (which we consider unnecessary gatherings) will be cancelled:

- *All mothers' day events – Nursery & Reception Tea Party and Mothers' Day Lunches;*
- *The Parent Forum Meeting;*
- *The Y6 SATs & Residential Visit Meeting;*
- *PTFA Easter Cake Sale;*
- *Our Easter Service;*
- *Parents' Evenings – all parents will receive a brief report, attached to each child's termly progress report, this Friday. There will be an option for parents to contact their child's class teacher by telephone if they wish to discuss a more pressing issue;*
- *Y5 & Y6 Bin-World Visit;*
- *The Easter Bonnet Parade – this will still take place in school, but parents will no longer be able to attend;*

While we understand this will come as a disappointment, our priority is to maintain the safety of our school, and we can only apologise for any inconvenience it may cause.

### **Emergency Child-Care – Up To Easter**

We are aware that those most vulnerable to this virus are elderly relatives, which in most cases are the very people you rely on to care for your children when at work. If you find that this creates a child-care crisis in your family, we would like to offer our support – this could be as simple as allowing children to come into school earlier (from 7.30am), and/or allowing children to remain in school (until 5.00pm). This is an interim measure for emergencies only, please contact school for further details and to discuss your individual requirements.

This is a rapidly changing situation and we will endeavour to provide you with regular updates via The Chirper and Our School App. In the meantime, please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any queries or concerns.

Many thanks

Mrs Blankley