



THE POCHIN SCHOOL
SCHOOL LANE
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Tuesday 17th March 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

Re: Coronavirus

I am writing to you about the latest updates regarding Coronavirus and to inform you about what measures we are taking to keep all pupils safe in our school and to limit the spread of the virus as much as possible. We continue to monitor the situation regularly and to follow the advice of Public Health England (PHE) and the government.

Last night the government has updated it's guidance for education settings and for self-isolation. The government announced two key changes that will impact our children and families. They are;

- **Anyone with symptoms (a new continuous cough OR a high temperature – anything above 37.8 degrees) must self-isolate for 14 days.**
- **Anyone who is living with someone who has symptoms (listed above) will also need to self-isolate for 14 days.**

The school expects that all parents adhere directly to these guidelines.

As a school we are also taking measures should a child display symptoms whilst attending school. If anyone presents with Coronavirus symptoms whilst on the school site, they will be taken out of class and a parent will be asked to collect their child as quickly as possible.

As always, the school will continue to follow advice from Public Health England and the government on these matters. If you feel that you need clinical advice, you are advised to: Use the NHS online 111 service, or call 111 if you do not have internet access. If you or your child are seriously ill or you feel that your life is at risk you should call 999.

We are of course taking this situation very seriously. We are encouraging all members of the school to protect themselves and to help in slowing the spread of all germs. I will set out how we are doing that below.

- We have decided not to hold whole school assemblies for the foreseeable future, this will include the Friday Celebration assemblies and also our Easter Service assembly.
- We have cancelled any off site visits up until the end of May (including Swimming) and will review trips later in the term closer to the time.
- We are encouraging all children to carry tissues and to use them to catch coughs or sneezes and place these tissues in the bin.
- To kill the germs we are ensuring children wash their hands with soap and water regularly throughout the day.
- Our site staff are taking particular care to regularly deep clean 'high touch' areas of the site.

As things continue to change and advice is amended, I will be sure to communicate current advice to you.

Yours Sincerely

Mrs Heather Sharpe
Headteacher