

Tuesday 17th March 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

Re: COVID-19 update 17th March 2020

I wanted to write to you with an update regarding our approach so far in relation to the everchanging situation around COVID-19. We are following very closely the advice and updates that are being provided by the DfE, GOV UK and Public Health England and we continue to take all the necessary safeguards around handwashing, personal hygiene and social contact. As well as national advice, information about next steps is coming out regularly from the Local Authority & our partners and consultants; all of which we consider carefully to ensure we are doing all we can.

The following links provide information on the latest guidance:

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/coronavirus-covid-19-information-for-the-public>

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

New guidance for households with symptoms

Yesterday, the Government introduced new guidance on whole household isolation in response to the coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak:

- if you live alone and you have symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19), however mild, stay at home for 7 days from when your symptoms started
- if you live with others and you or another member of the household have symptoms of coronavirus, then all household members must stay at home and not leave the house for 14 days. The 14-day period starts from the day when the first person in the house became ill. It is likely that people living within a household will infect each other or be infected already. Staying at home for 14 days will greatly reduce the overall amount of infection the household could pass on to others in the community
- for anyone in the household who starts displaying symptoms, they need to stay at home for 7 days from when the symptoms appeared, regardless of what day they are on in the original 14-day isolation period.

The symptoms are:

- A high temperature (37.8 degrees and above)
- A new, continuous cough

The full stay at home guidance for households with these symptoms can be found here:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-stay-at-home-guidance>

In order to prepare for what may be about to come, below are a number of the measures in addition to those outlined above, that the leadership of Millbrook Primary School would like to inform you about that we have already done:

- We have ensured that all our systems for school closure, should we be directed to do this, are in place.
- We have ensured that all our online learning platforms are up to speed and ready should we need them. The main ones are 'Purple Mash' and 'Times Tables Rock Stars' so we do recommend you check that your child's usernames are working and if they aren't please let your child's teacher know and we will help to sort it out.
- Activities specific to your child's year group will be added to the website this week on the 'Activities to do at home' page under the Resources heading. <http://millbrook.swindon.sch.uk/activities-to-do-at-home/>
- We have taken the decision not to shake hands with parents and other visitors to the school in an attempt to follow guidelines from Public Health England. All visitors are also using hand sanitizer on entry to school.
- We have cancelled or postponed all of our trips
- Sports fixtures, festivals and competitions have been cancelled where we may have concerns.

As we will shortly have a range of resources on our website to support pupils studying at home. Unfortunately, we have reached a point where we cannot organise bespoke work for individual students or respond to individual queries.

As an Academy, we believe that we are prepared should GOV UK move us to a higher phase with its plans to contain this virus. We are constantly reviewing the situation and responding accordingly.

Thank you for your ongoing support and understanding.

Yours sincerely,



Mrs Karen Pyman
Headteacher – Millbrook Primary School



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Fulfilling Potential*

