



HEACHAM JUNIOR SCHOOL

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17th March 2020

Dear Parent / Carer

I am writing to update parents on the actions the school is taking in regard to the COVID-19 virus.

We are receiving daily updates from the Department for Education and Public Health England (NHS), and we are following any advice they issue to ensure the wellbeing of all our students and staff. The school has contingency arrangements in place to support students in the event of the Government issuing a notice for schools to close. In the meantime it is important to stress that people need to be proportional and considered in their response to this rapidly changing situation.

As of today, there are no known confirmed COVID-19 cases at our school.

The school remains open as usual to all students. Students should ensure that they continue to help to keep themselves and others safe by following basic hygiene advice. Everyone should wash their hands regularly with soap and water for at least 20 seconds and/or use alcohol sanitiser.

We will do everything we can to remain open, children are learning, happy and safe. We are able to operate our schools currently under usual classroom practise but in the future we may need to combine classes or split classes. Government guidance has lifted class size rules and ratios so we can remain open.

As a precautionary measure, in line with Government advice, we are cancelling swimming lessons, visitors into school, assemblies, all trips, our KS1 Velveteen Rabbit performance, Y6 Easter School, Easter celebrations and services due to take place over the coming weeks and will provide a full refund if payments have been made. All sporting fixtures have been cancelled.

If we are directed to close, the school are making preparations for all students to be able to access home learning packs and work online. Please check with your child that they have Purple mash log in accounts and school email accounts.

If your child becomes unwell and is showing signs of illness, specifically

- a high temperature
- a new, continuous cough,

then the advice from the NHS is to stay at home and self-isolate for the recommended time. Latest information can be found at: <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/>

If you know your child has had direct exposure to a confirmed case of COVID-19 they are advised to remain self-isolated at home for the recommended time and inform the school. Any absence due to this illness or the need to isolate will be authorised. If your child or a member of your family has a '**confirmed**' case of COVID-19, please remember to advise the school as soon as possible.

EXECUTIVE HEADTEACHER
Ms L Jackson

EXECUTIVE DEPUTY HEAD
Mrs E Hunt

ASSISTANT HEAD
Mrs E Jones



West Norfolk Academies Trust



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We understand there will be a great deal of anxiety surrounding the COVID-19 outbreak. Please be assured that the school will continue to operate with the safety and wellbeing of our students and staff at the heart of any decisions we take.

Thank you for your understanding and support during this challenging time.

Yours sincerely

Ms Louise Jackson
Executive Headteacher

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