



Denmead Junior School

Building success, inspiring curiosity

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Friday 13th March 2020

Dear parents and carers,

In line with the infant school, I thought it would be helpful to share the school's response to the latest government advice about the coronavirus outbreak and to clarify what this means for us.

The advice is: **if a child or member of staff develops a new cough or has a raised temperature then they should self-isolate for 7 days. This means staying at home and not coming into school. The advice is that the school does not need to close if a member of the school community is self-isolating.**

If your child shows either of these symptoms then please phone the school office in the usual way. Your child should then remain at home for the following 7 days. If you need to come to school to bring and collect siblings, then the child self-isolating **must not** come with you.

If a child falls ill with either of these symptoms during the school day, then we will contact you in the usual way, asking you to collect your child as soon as possible. Whilst we wait for someone to arrive, we will do our best to keep that child isolated from the other children and staff.

Should a member of staff develop these symptoms, they too must self-isolate for 7 days. At this time, we have no idea how many staff will be affected or when this might happen. As you can imagine, this will make planning for the day-to-day running of the school challenging. We will do all that we can to keep the school open. However, should we find ourselves without enough staff to run the school safely, then it may be necessary to close either a year group or the whole school. This decision will be communicated with you in the same way as we would communicate a closure for snow i.e. a text message sent to all parents, Scopay and a message on the school website. We will do what can to avoid the need for this, but the health of the whole school community needs to be our primary concern at this time.

Should we receive any further advice from either the local authority, Public Health England or the government we will act accordingly.

I know that you will want to do all that you can to keep your own family and the rest of the school community well, so please do make sure that if your child develops these symptoms that you keep them at home to self-isolate for the full 7 days. Thank you in advance for all your support through these very unusual circumstances.

Yours sincerely

Elaine Viner
Headteacher

