

# THOMAS JONES

*an Ofsted outstanding and DfE designated teaching school*

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Friday 13<sup>th</sup> March 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

## **Covid-19 Virus Update**

I am writing to provide further guidance and information concerning the school's response to the COVID-19 virus.

It continues to be important for us to follow advice from Public Health England, and take a proportionate and calm response.

If your child develops a fever or cough, please keep them at home. We are being extremely vigilant ourselves and will call and ask you to collect your child if we notice any symptoms. Please ensure you have a plan in place so that you, a family member or trusted friend can attend the school at short notice.

In the event of the school being closed for a period of time, teachers are working exceptionally hard to plan learning that can be taken home to occupy and stimulate children. The local authority has recommended that schools encourage working parents to think about a contingency plan for childcare, were the school to close and to liaise with their employers in advance.

We continue to take other precautionary measures:

- our cleaning team using screen cleaner and an antibacterial spray in all high-contact areas such as loos, door handles and key pads (the entire school is deep cleaned and sanitised daily)
- ensuring that any visitors to the school are vetted to see whether they fall into categories where there is a likely risk of infection, due to former travel or symptoms
- ensuring there is plenty of antibacterial hand soap in the loos and other sink areas
- Reminding children in whole school assemblies and in class frequently of the importance of regular and thorough hand-washing and good hygiene. (20 seconds of hand washing – singing *Happy Birthday* twice through)
- encouraging children to cough and sneeze into a tissue, screw it up and then put it into the bin

In addition:

- The site manager Mr Bill Wharmby now undertakes an additional clean of high-contact areas such as door handles half way through the day.
- Visitors are now expected to wash their hands on arrival to the school.
- NHS posters encouraging hand washing are now displayed in all loos throughout the school.

We continue to closely monitor this unprecedented situation, and will update you of any further developments and their implications for the school.

Yours sincerely,



Lindsay Johnson