



16th March 2020

Dear Parents,

### **Coronavirus update**

I wanted to update you on the school's plans in the face of the recent developments concerning Coronavirus. As I am sure you are aware, last week the Prime Minister made it clear that schools should not close, unless advised to do so by Public Health England. North Duffield Primary School is following this advice and therefore will remain open.

## Self Isolation

It is important to note that the government advice on self-isolation has changed, and all members of the school community need to be aware of this. The relevant section of the government statement is:

"We are asking anyone who shows certain symptoms to self-isolate for 7 days, regardless of whether they have travelled to affected areas. This means we want people to stay at home and avoid all but essential contact with others for 7 days from the point of displaying mild symptoms, to slow the spread of infection.

The symptoms are: \* A high temperature (37.8 degrees and above) \* A new, continuous cough.

You do not need to call NHS 111 to go into self-isolation. If your symptoms worsen during home isolation or are no better after 7 days contact NHS 111 online at 111.nhs.uk. If you have no internet access, you should call NHS 111. For a medical emergency dial 999."

If either of the above symptoms applies to your child, please keep them home and inform the school using the usual procedure.

# Hygiene and cleaning

All pupils, staff and visitors are asked to wash their hands on arrival to school, after playtimes, before lunch and after all sporting sessions.

We are prioritising certain areas of the schools for more regular cleaning and paying particular attention to all contact surfaces- tables, light switches, door handles etc....

We will ensure that soap dispensers remain topped up and that toilets are regularly cleaned.















#### **School Events**

After assessing the risks, the school has decided to limit the number of visitors into school. Therefore we have postponed our Parents Consultation evening, assemblies (including Friday morning) and the 60s club concert. After school clubs will continue to run until further notice.

Due to the postponement of Parents' Consultations, I have asked your child's class teacher to write a brief report which will be sent home, summarising the information you would have received in school. If you would like to speak to the class teacher, we are setting up the opportunity for telephone appointments. These will be on set days over the next two weeks, a separate letter with times and dates available will be sent out later this week.

#### **School Closure**

While there is no decision to close schools at the moment, we are updating our contingency plans, if the government does decide to close schools. All staff are preparing home learning packs. If your child does not have access to the internet at home, please contact the school as soon as possible, so that we can put additional support in place.

We also have clear contingency plans of how to respond if a large proportion of staff have to selfisolate, and will be doing everything we can to continue to provide high quality education. As things stand, SATs will go ahead as scheduled, and we will continue to have in place the full range of activities and resources to support Years 2 and 6 with their learning.

## Further information and guidance

All our schools follow the Department of Education (DfE) and Public Health England (PHE) advice. Every school in the UK now receives daily updates from the DfE

Parents, carers and young people can also contact the government helpline as follows: Phone: 0800 046 8687

Email: <u>DfE.coronavirushelpline@education.gov.uk</u> Opening hours: 8am to 6pm (Monday to Friday)

The following links may also be helpful: Up to date Government advice on Coronavirus https://www.gov.uk/coronavirus

Public Health England Website: https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/public-health-england

If you have any questions or concerns, please send them to <u>admin@north duffield.n-yorks.sch.uk</u>

Kind regards

Mr Russell Headteacher











