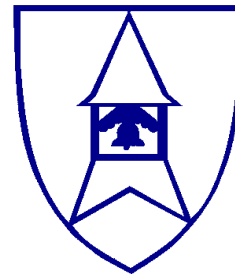


Swinderby All Saints Church of England Primary School



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Head teacher: Zoë Longstaff B Ed (Hons) NPQH

Friday 13 March 2020

Dear Parents and Guardians,

I am sure, like me, that you will have been following all the news around Coronavirus (COVID-19).

As a school, we have continued to receive daily updates direct from the Department for Education (DfE) and the NHS. This has been helpful information, not hyped up by the media, and has enabled us to take a proactive and yet sensible approach. All of these updates are available on our school website.

The children (alongside staff) have become more expert at using effective handwashing techniques; coughing into the crook of their arm rather than onto their hands; using tissues, more handwashing and hand sanitiser gel as necessary. Table tops are cleaned at the end of each day with anti-bacterial spray and hot water and iPads and laptops cleaned off regularly. These measures have been in place for some time (regardless of COVID-19) as a way of dealing with the on-going coughs, sniffles and tummy upsets that can be a part of any school.

Yesterday, I am sure you will have seen via the news, we moved into another phase. The main addition to the existing measures is regarding self-isolating for a new cough or a high temperature. This NHS link gives greater information: <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/>

Can we please emphasise that, if your child has a persistent cough (which is new) or if they have a high temperature, they should be kept off school for 7 days.

We are obviously following the same measures as a staff team and we hope that any reduction in staff numbers will not adversely affect our abilities to provide the best possible education for our children. There may need to be some flexibility in our staffing arrangements over this period.

We have taken the decision to cancel all non-essential external visitors – this includes our volunteer readers. Parent's Evening will go ahead next week, but we will leave this to the parent's discretion should they wish to attend. Swimming will go ahead next week as planned unless we hear otherwise.

If we suspect or are told we have cases in school, we will inform everyone so that you can make a decision as to whether your child attends school.

Finally, can I ask that we are careful not to believe all that the media is suggesting regarding immediate closure of schools. **Should this happen in the future, we will inform you at the earliest opportunity, via our Txtround system and social media.** (Please ensure you notify us of any changes to contact details). We are already beginning to consider how we can support the children with on-going learning tasks at home - including things that don't rely on having access to the Internet, but let's not jump to any assumptions regarding closure at this stage. As I have explained, we are following, to the letter, the advice given by both the DfE and the NHS and doing our best to keep everyone as safe and healthy as possible.

Truthfulness, Compassion, Forgiveness, Respect



This is an ever changing, fast evolving situation so things may alter in the future but you will be notified as soon as anything changes.

Thank you for your support in these matters. Please follow SCHOOL communication to keep updated on any further changes. Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to get in touch with us.

Yours Sincerely,
Mrs Zoe Longstaff
Head teacher

Truthfulness, Compassion, Forgiveness, Respect

