

All Saints' C of E (VC) Primary School

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13th March 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

I am sure that following the escalation of the Coronavirus situation yesterday there is speculation around what will happen at All Saints' in an uncertain time. Following continued guidance from Central Government, I thought it sensible to share the attached school action plan to the Corona Virus threat.

It details how the school action plan relates to the Government Action Plan; what steps have already been taken to contain the threat and plans that are in place should the school need to close. A summary of the main points is included at the end.

However **at this point there is no planned closure of the school** and we will continue to operate as normal where the health and wellbeing of the community of All Saints' School continues to be of paramount importance, and we will continue to be guided by professional advice.

Thank you for your continued support in what is challenging times for us all.

Yours sincerely

Mr P Brown
Head Teacher



Essex
Primary SCITT



All Saints' C of E Primary School, Maldon

CoronaVirus Action Plan

Aims

Whilst it is important to keep the effects and the extent of the Coronavirus in perspective we all have a collective responsibility to minimise the risk and so we will take steps in school to protect the school community.

Under the direction of the Department For Education and Public Health England we are acting on their daily advice, whilst also planning for a prospective escalation of the current situation.

As a school we can:

- undertake dynamic risk assessments of potential health and other impacts, using the best available scientific advice and evidence to inform decision making.
- minimise the potential health impact by slowing spread in the UK and overseas, and reducing infection, illness and death.
- maintain trust and confidence amongst the organisations and people who provide key public services, and those who use them.

Phase 1

In accordance with the Governments action plan, we have successfully supported the 'Contain' stage, which "detects early cases, follow up close contacts, and prevent the disease taking hold in this country for as long as is reasonably possible."

As a school we have been fortunate in that no cases have been reported to the leadership team in school. Children and adults working in school have taken the following steps to prevent the spread of Coronavirus:

- All classes have had specific lessons about the importance of hygiene, have been shown how to wash hands properly and for the correct duration of time.
- Laminated songwords have been put up in every toilet for children to sing whilst washing their hands to ensure they wash their hands for the correct duration.
- Alcohol based hand sanitizer is available for use to ensure hygiene is further supported.
- Headteacher has met with cleaning contractor to ensure standards of cleaning continue to be high.
- Risk assessments have been made to assess whether particular events should continue to take place eg Central Park visit to partner London school has been cancelled,
- HT to continue to read daily releases for school settings and act accordingly.

Phase 2

Under the Government action plan, we are now moving into the 'Delay' phase in which we "collectively look to slow the spread in this country, if it does take hold, lowering the peak impact and pushing it away from the winter season."

As a school we would look to do this in the following ways:

- Continue to impress the importance of good hygiene across the school community in accordance with the actions taken in Phase 1.
- Further risk assess school events that gather large groups of the school community together at once or where we come into contact with those vulnerable to contracting the virus eg in consultation with Longfields Care Home, it has been agreed Year 6 not to attend until after Easter in the first instance.
- HT continue to act on daily information for educational settings.

We will always endeavour to keep the school open, however if circumstances arise that lead to either a short term closure (1 day) or are advised by the DFE under the direction of Central Government to close for a longer fixed period (1 week or longer) we will put in place activities that can be completed at home to continue to support pupils academic development.

These plans will be shared, in paper copy if timescales permit or digitally through School Comms or on the school website under a new tab entitled 'School Closures' and work completed can be added to a Home School Book given out by the school, specifically for where such circumstances arise.

Phase 3

The Government Action Plan details stage 3 as Research in which Health professionals and research teams investigate the successful combat of the virus. The school can play a limited role in this phase. However under stage 4, which is 'Mitigate' we are asked to take a collective responsibility for providing the best care possible for people who become ill, support hospitals to maintain essential services and ensure ongoing support for people ill in the community to minimise the overall impact of the disease on society, public services and on the economy.

As a school we will continue to be led by circumstances as they develop and act under the advice of leading professionals such as Public Health England.

The hope and suggestion is that warmer weather arrives the spread of the coronavirus will diminish, however the impact it will have on society and our school will be through our collective efforts.

Summary

- **We are working in alignment with the government action plan.**
- **All vital health advice such as the importance of hygiene is being and will continue to be emphasised to children and staff.**
- **We currently have no reported cases in our community and we endeavour to keep school open unless expert advice changes to direct that we should close.**
- **In the case of any school closures being advised, we already have planning in place to support children's ongoing educational development at home.**