



17th March 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

Firstly, may we thank you all for your ongoing support with regards to managing the safety of your children as they continue to attend school in the current health crisis. As a school we are guided by governmental advice and thus far our actions have been directed by the latest advice. We have consulted the various helplines over the last few weeks to ensure we make timely and correct decisions with regard to the well-being of your children and the wider community.

The government advice changed yesterday and I am sure you are all keeping up with the latest news but it is perhaps worth re-iterating the latest advice –

- Anyone with a fever (above 37.8 degrees) or persistent cough should stay at home for seven days if they live alone or 14 days if they live with others. Anyone who lives with someone displaying coronavirus symptoms should also stay at home for 14 days. People who have to isolate themselves should ask others for help
- Everyone should stop non-essential contact with others. This is particularly important for people over 70, those under 70 with underlying health conditions such as asthma and also pregnant women
- People should work from home where they can
- People should avoid places like pubs, clubs and theatres.
- People should stop all unnecessary travel
- By the weekend, those with the most serious health conditions should be largely shielded from social contact for 12 weeks

In light of the above advice we are advising that if your child has any of the symptoms above, they should not be in school or return to school within 14 days. Furthermore, if a family member in the household has any of the symptoms, your child should also stay at home for 14 days.

Reporting Absence:

If your child is unwell or showing signs/symptoms as described above please follow our normal school policy and ring school before the start of day to inform us of the reason for your child's absence so that we can record this as an authorized absence.

Communication

All information you need in relation to changes at school will be posted on official channels and I ask that you do not rely on other sources such as non-school related



social media to inform their decision making. We will contact you/share information through;

- Text to parent service
- Class dojo app
- Posts on our website www.willowtree.knowsley.sch.uk
- Twitter account (@primary_tree)

In an attempt to reduce the number of people entering the school building and to maintain the safety and well-being of our school community, we have made a decision to postpone or cancel a number of events in school, as follows:

- Parents Evening – Monday 30th March and Tuesday 31st March (**postponed**).
New dates will be sent out after Easter.
- KS2 church visit on Tuesday 31st March (**cancelled**)
- Easter Assembly – Thursday 2nd April (**cancelled**)

It is, of course, possible that school closures will be ordered by the government at some point over the next few weeks. We hope to avoid this eventuality but we can assure you that plans are in place to set work for pupils if this situation arises.

So we can keep you informed of any further updates that we receive as a school, please make sure that all your contact details are up-to-date with the school office.

I would like to thank you, on behalf of the staff, for your continued support especially at this very difficult time for us all.

Mrs. E. Riley
Principal