
Tranmere Park Primary School
Headteacher: Mrs Kirsten Finley
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Friday 13th March 2020

RE: Coronavirus/COVID-19

Dear Parents/Carers

In light of the Government's announcement yesterday regarding COVID 19, I wanted to let you know how we are making sure we are prepared for every eventuality, how this may impact our school and to allay any concerns you may have.

The age of the students in our school means they are in the **lowest risk category** unless they have underlying health conditions. In line with current DFE guidance we do not plan to close the school. We are receiving regular national and local updates and our policy going forward will be to follow the guidance we receive from Public Health England, the Department for Education, and the Foreign and Commonwealth Office. We will obviously continue to stay in frequent contact with parents of children who do have serious additional health considerations as we are aware that additional measures may need to be discussed.

Currently we are ensuring that children have lots of opportunities to wash their hands and continue to educate them on the importance of the 'catch it, bin it, kill it' process. The toilets are being regularly checked to ensure that there is plenty of soap available and all classes have supplies of tissues and hand sanitiser. The school cleaning team are also doing a great job of thoroughly cleaning handles and surfaces. We feel that it is important to educate the children around routines without unnecessarily frightening them and we appreciate your support with this.

We would continue to ask that if you or your children have any symptoms associated with COVID-19 (the coronavirus), you should contact NHS 111 online for advice. Please keep your child at home if they have a high temperature or a new, continuous cough and let the school know as soon as possible that this is your intention. Currently, there are no confirmed cases amongst any of our school population. If there are any confirmed cases of COVID-19 amongst staff or students, then the local Public Health England Health Protection Team will contact school to discuss this and support the school in carrying out a risk assessment.

Unfortunately, in light of the Government announcement last night, the year six trip to PGL France can no longer go ahead. I realise that for many this will be very disappointing news. However, I'm sure you appreciate that we must follow the restrictions put in place. We will be speaking with the companies to investigate the possibility of

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alternative provision and ask for your patience in this matter. As I'm sure you can appreciate, there are schools across the country now trying to clarify their position and this will take time to work through. We will be in contact with parents of children in year six as soon as we possibly can with further news.

Our intention is to go ahead with the Ingleborough residential next week. We have drawn up a detailed plan should a child/children or staff member become ill whilst away in Ingleborough and this will be shared with year five parents in a separate communication before Monday.

We will need to keep future trips under review. I am sure you understand much of this will be outside of our control, but any decisions made will be communicated to you as soon as we possibly can.

Should schools be instructed to close in the future our intention will be to set work/activities for children to complete through the class pages on the school website. Teachers are now in the process of beginning to plan activities should this be needed.

The Department for Education have set up a helpline for staff, parents and young people which can be contacted on 0800 046 8687 or via email at dfc.coronavirushelpline@education.gov.uk between 8am and 6pm Monday to Friday should you require any further clarification.

I'm sure that the situation will continue to alter in the coming weeks and we will continue to keep you informed of any new guidance we receive. In the meantime, we thank you for your support.

A. Hodgson

Mrs Alison Hodgson

Co-Headteacher