



Phoenix Primary School

Marlborough Grove

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Headteacher: Mr Simon Assig

Tuesday 17th March 2020

RE: Covid-19 – Update

Dear Parents and Carers,

At this difficult time, we want to reassure you that the school continues to follow government guidance in relation to the Covid-19 outbreak. Recent developments in the Delay phase have resulted in the Government taking steps to 'stop non-essential contact with others and to stop all unnecessary travel.' As a result of this the school has decided to postpone the following until further notice:

- School trips
- Class work share assemblies
- Any concerts, including Rock Steady
- Parents into Reading/Learning
- Coffee Mornings
- Parents Evening
- School run After School Clubs (not including Aspire After School Club)

While your children are at school we continue to follow the advice from Public Health England regarding handwashing. Please support your child to follow the same procedures at home. We will no longer be holding assemblies or other events which may constitute a 'mass gathering'.

Advice on Self-Isolation:

The advice from Public Health England is as that if you have either of the following symptoms you need to stay at home and not bring your children to school:

- A high temperature – you feel hot to touch on your chest or back (above 37.8 degrees)
- A new, continuous cough – this means you've started coughing repeatedly

If you have the symptoms you need to self-isolate for 14 days. If anyone in your household develops these symptoms the rest of the household must self-isolate for 14 days. Please follow this guidance in order to keep the school community safe. Any absences of this nature will be constituted as authorised absence from school.

Advice on Social Distancing:

Social distancing should now be put in place for the following vulnerable groups:

- Anyone aged 70 or older (regardless of medical conditions)
- Adults under 70 with an underlying health condition listed below (ie. anyone instructed to get a flu jab as an adult each year on medical grounds):
 - chronic (long-term) respiratory diseases, such as asthma, chronic obstructive

- pulmonary disease (COPD), emphysema or bronchitis
- chronic heart disease, such as heart failure
- chronic kidney disease
- chronic liver disease, such as hepatitis
- chronic neurological conditions, such as Parkinson's disease, motor neurone disease, multiple sclerosis (MS), a learning disability or cerebral palsy
- diabetes
- problems with your spleen – for example, sickle cell disease or if you have had your spleen removed
- a weakened immune system as the result of conditions such as HIV and AIDS, or medicines such as steroid tablets or chemotherapy
- being seriously overweight (a BMI of 40 or above)
- those who are pregnant

The following advice has been given by the Government in order to carry out social distancing measures.

1. Avoid contact with someone who is displaying symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19). These symptoms include high temperature and/or new and continuous cough;
2. Avoid non-essential use of public transport, varying your travel times to avoid rush hour, when possible;
3. Work from home, where possible.
4. Avoid large gatherings, and gatherings in smaller public spaces such as pubs, cinemas, restaurants, theatres, bars, clubs
5. Avoid gatherings with friends and family. Keep in touch using remote technology such as phone, internet, and social media.
6. Use telephone or online services to contact your GP or other essential services.

Therefore, if anyone in your house identifies with any of the criteria above, it is recommended that your child does not attend school for a period of 12 weeks.

Keeping your child engaged while they are off school:

Think about stockpiling some activity supplies: arts and crafts materials, games, jigsaws etc. These can be picked up second hand from charity shops, and some libraries have stocks to borrow. Some ideas are below:

- Board Games
- Snakes and Ladders (– can be fun to make your own board)
- Playing Cards
- Boggle
- Craft bag of supplies
- Jigsaws
- Chess
- Sudoku
- Crosswords
- Lined paper for writing stories



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Websites for learning:

Please find below some examples of websites that can be used in order to support your child's learning at home:

- Science:

<http://www.sciencefun.org/kidszone/experiments/>

- Literacy:

<https://www.oxfordowl.co.uk/for-home/>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/learningenglish/english/features/childrens-stories>

- Maths:

<https://www.mymaths.co.uk/>

<https://nrich.maths.org/>

- General Resources:

Twinkl: www.twinkl.co.uk/offer (Enter Code: UKTWINKLHELPS)

The school is also in the process of compiling some additional resources to support learning that will be sent via email in due course. Please ensure that a current email address has been provided to the office in order to receive this.

Accessing support from other organisations while your child is off school:

Please find below a list of useful websites that are also available to support you at this time:

<https://southwark.foodbank.org.uk/>

<https://southwark.foodbank.org.uk/locations/>

<https://www.trusselltrust.org/get-help/find-a-foodbank/southwark/>

<https://www.pecan.org.uk/southwark-foodbank>

<https://www.cschub.co.uk/>

<https://southwark.foodbank.org.uk/get-help/foodbank-vouchers/>

We endeavour to provide your child with the same quality of education you have come to expect from us but please be patient with staff as the situation develops. We are likely to develop staff shortages which may result in changes to the adults in your child's class.

At this time, we feel it is important that we work together to support our children in this unprecedented situation. We will keep you updated should there be any changes in government guidance. If you have any specific questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to speak to a member of staff.

Thank you for your continued support,

Mr Assig

Headteacher.