

Rosemary Lane Nursery School

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16th March 2020

Dear parent/carer,

Re: Coronavirus

I am writing to update you about the school's current position regarding Coronavirus.

We take the health and safety and wellbeing of our pupils and staff very seriously, and, as such, we want to reassure you that we are following the guidance from Public Health England and the Department for Education (DfE).

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/guidance-to-educational-settings-about-covid-19>

The risk is currently low in County Durham, however to minimise the spread of any infection in school we are:

Supervising hand washing throughout the day, washing resources with antibacterial cleaning products, carrying out additional deep cleaning and we have removed some resources from areas of the nursery such as food and baby bottles from the home corner.

We will not be sending out any more activity packs, story bags or library books to reduce the spread of infection between home and school. If you have any packs or books at home, please return these as soon as possible.

As you may be aware, we have the following planned meetings/events. These are now **cancelled**:

- **Cuddle up with a book morning (Tuesday 17th March)** – children will bring home a special book and bookmark which we were planning to give out on the day
- **Parent meetings (23rd and 25th March)** – short summaries, that would have been shared at these meetings, will be sent home for you to read, sign and return
- **All visits out of nursery to the local library and Ashwood Park have been cancelled**

If circumstances arise where the school must close, we will inform you in our usual way by posting a news item on the OurSchoolsApp and a message on the school website. Please ensure you have downloaded the app to be able to receive any messages (information on how to do this is available in the nursery office, on the parents noticeboard and on the school website).

We are currently making plans for supporting your child's education should a closure become necessary and will keep you informed on this.

Prevent the spread of infection

Make sure you and your children follow these general principles to prevent spreading any respiratory virus:

- Wash your hands often – with soap and water and scrub for at least 20 seconds, or an alcohol-based sanitiser if soap and water aren't available

- › Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands
- › Avoid close contact with people who are unwell
- › If you feel unwell, stay at home and don't attend work or school
- › Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then place the tissue in a bin and then wash your hands
- › Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces in the home
- › If you're worried about your symptoms, please call NHS 111 – don't go directly to your GP or other healthcare environment

The most recent UK government advice (12.03.2020) is that anyone with a new continuous cough and a high temperature should self-isolate for seven days.

If you or your children have returned from abroad in the last 14 days, please follow the link below for advice about category 1 and 2 countries.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-specified-countries-and-areas/covid-19-specified-countries-and-areas-with-implications-for-returning-travellers-or-visitors-arriving-in-the-uk>

Symptoms to look out for

If you've returned from any of the category 1 or 2 areas or countries, look out for the following symptoms:

Cough

Difficulty in breathing

Fever (a temperature of 38 degrees C or higher)

- › Stay indoors and avoid contact with other people as you would with other flu viruses. Please see the link below for information about self-isolation.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/wuhan-novel-coronavirus-self-isolation-for-patients-undergoing-testing/advice-sheet-home-isolation>

- › Call NHS 111 immediately for an assessment (or 999 if you require emergency medical attention)

As I mentioned, we are following the guidance from Public Health England and the DfE, but this is being updated regularly in response to the changing situation. We will monitor and follow the national guidance as it is updated and would urge you to do the same.

If you or your child have any further concerns or questions, please do not hesitate to contact the school on 0191 527 1168 or email rosemary.lane@durhamlearning.net

Thank you for your continuing support.

Yours sincerely

Jill Jones

Head Teacher

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