

Otterham C P School

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Dear Parents

We are certainly living through unprecedented times where making predictions as to what the state of affairs will be from one week to the next (even day by day) seems almost futile. However, we must try to advise and plan, with the information we have available to us at any given time – it is certainly somewhat fluid.

This is what we do know:-

- The school will remain open for as long as the government tells us to do so. As the restriction on class sizes has been removed, we will continue to operate with staffing levels that allow us to safeguard the children. If we cannot ensure the safety of your children we will consider partial closure in the first instance. In the event of a school closure, you will be notified via the Xpressions app (or a phone call if you have not got the app).
- The instruction for families to self-isolate for 14 days if any member displays symptoms will result in reduced numbers of both teachers and children. Please do not send your children to school if they are displaying any symptoms similar to that of the common cold/flu (coughing, sneezing, high temperature, aches) as they will be sent home immediately.
- Here in school we are instructing the children to wash hands at regular intervals, wiping door handles with disinfectant, refusing entry to any visitors other than those relating to health and safety, cancelling any events/gatherings that result in more children than usual being in the same space and responding calmly to the concerns raised by children. Thank you for your cooperation in saying goodbye to your children at the school door - we need to do all we can to reduce possible exposure, in an attempt to protect the school community.
- If the schools are instructed to close, the class pages on the school website will display instructions for what work can be done at home (e.g. reading, spelling lists, topic research and websites that can be accessed free of charge, addressing learning through a range of subjects). If you are unable to access the internet at home could you please notify the school. A pupil work pack will also be provided for each individual child.
- Discussions are taking place about how we can possibly help our families in terms of providing Free School Meals, emotional support etc. A list of support charities in the area is being created – I will share with you as soon as I receive it.

As always, we are here to offer support and guidance where possible and until the time comes where changes to our lives are significant, we carry on as normal. If you have any concerns/observations, please do come and share them as although we try to consider all avenues, we are only human!

Kind regards

Helen Ward