

St Bartholomew's CE Primary School

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March 2020

Dear Parents/Carers

RE COVID-19 - information for schools

Dear Parents.

Following my last letter regarding COVID-19, I am writing with an update.

I am aware there is a lot of speculation in the news about schools potentially closing to help delay the spread of COVID-19. Currently, we have received no information regarding this and, like you, are only aware of this because of the press and news coverage. At a head teachers briefing on Thursday, a spokesperson for the department for health advised us that the best method of stopping transmission was to maintain good hygiene, which we are ensuring happens at school. Please be assured that the school will only close if the Department of Education or Public Health England instruct us to. I will, of course, keep parents/carers informed if I receive any new information. Please ensure that we have the correct text and email contacts for you. In the event of a school closure, children will be set some activities to complete at home.

Following the COBRA meeting yesterday, the country has entered the delay phase of its response. We therefore request that any pupil with a high temperature and/or a dry cough, do not attend school for 7 days, as per government recommendations. If you are unsure about sending your child to school, please do not hesitate to contact us. The current situation is assessed on a daily basis and there may be changes to the current response by the government. However, until we are notified otherwise, we are maintaining a business as usual approach, with increased vigilance to ensuring hygiene measures are followed. Please do not hesitate to contact me, should you require any further information. I would like to thank you all for your support and calm and measured response to this global situation.

Yours sincerely

Rachael Kilmister Headteacher