



Willerby Carr Lane Primary School

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17 March 2020

Dear Parents/ Carers

As you aware, the situation with coronavirus is a changing from day to day.

We follow Public Health England and local government advice and will act according to any orders from the government. Please see <https://www.gov.uk/government/topical-events/coronavirus-covid-19-uk-government-response> for further information.

As such, **anyone who lives with someone with a cough or temperature should stay at home for 14 days.**

The school management are continually monitoring the situation. We want to do everything we can to safeguard you, your children, your families and our staff and their families. We have therefore implemented the following restrictive measures until further notice:

Restrictive Measures

- There will be no assemblies in school
- All trips out will be cancelled – reimbursements will be made in due course, but please be patient. I'm sure you understand that we are currently facing a very demanding situation.
- All school shows will be cancelled – where possible they will be performed to camera and this will be uploaded to our normal Vimeo channel
- All non-essential visitors to the school will be cancelled. This includes our hard-working volunteers.
- The parents' 'stay for lunch' event will be cancelled.
- All external staff training will be postponed.
- All sporting competitions will be cancelled.
- All parents' evenings will be postponed.
- All clubs (lunchtime and after-school) will be cancelled.

We would urge parents/ carers **not** to come to the school office or into any part of the school building unless absolutely essential. Please ring, write or email instead.

I would also ask that parents only try to contact us where really necessary. As you can imagine, our telephone has not stopped ringing and it is starting to interfere with our essential operations and contingency work.

Contingency for Shutting Classes/ Year groups

It is already becoming challenging to keep the entire school open.

Today we have 3 teachers off school: Mrs Whitcher is recovering from a minor operation; Mrs Smith (6S) has a stomach bug; Mrs Turnbull has a partner who has a temperature. From tomorrow, Mrs

Pearson will be self-isolating due to underlying health conditions which may put her at risk. We also have other support staff who are needing to self-isolate because they fall into a 'vulnerable person' category as outlined by the government.

It is becoming difficult to arrange for supply cover. With all schools in the same situation, the demand for supply is outstripping availability.

It is therefore now **highly likely** that, going forward, we will have to close school to individual classes for undefined periods of time. If this becomes necessary, we will send you a text message. We will want to give you as much notice as possible, hopefully at least the day before. But, it is distinctly possible that we may only know ourselves on any given morning and will have to cancel a class on the actual day.

It is also a possibility that our school kitchen might have to close if our catering staff become affected. In such an eventuality, we will request that all children bring a packed lunch.

Contingency for supporting Home Schooling

If school does shut in the future, we are looking to support your child's education using online communication.

We are setting up virtual classrooms on "Google Classrooms". Each year group will have a classroom that they can log in to. Teachers, working from home, will be able to allocate work assignments, send out resources, receive returned work and message pupils. Teachers will also be available on-line between 9.00am and 12.00pm to directly interact and respond to questions.

To make this work you will need a Google Account. If you don't have one, then you can easily create one by going to <https://accounts.google.com/signup> and following the instructions. Further information on how to join your year group's class will follow in due course.

I appreciate that not everyone has easy access to online capability. We are therefore in the process of also trying to produce some supplementary paper packs to go home.

As always, I am very thankful for the tremendously supportive working relationship we have between home and school. Our foremost consideration is everyone's safety and we will always act accordingly.

If there is anything that I need to inform parents/ carers of, I promise I will do so directly, so please do not rely on rumour or speculation.

Yours faithfully



Mr Sean Smith
Headteacher