



Tuesday 17th March 2020

Coronavirus update

Dear Parents / Carers

As Headteacher, I am continuing to receive daily updates linked to coronavirus from the Department for Education (DFE) and Public Health England as well as updates from North Tyneside.

Following the press conference yesterday from our Prime Minister, the advice has been updated and now includes the following:

- Schools will remain open for now
- The government is now recommending 'whole household' isolation for 14 days should any member of the family have a high temperature or a new persistent cough
- Staff, young people and children should stay at home if they are unwell with a new, continuous cough or a high temperature to avoid spreading infection to others. Otherwise they should attend education or work as normal.
- If staff, young people or children become unwell on site with a new, continuous cough or a high temperature they should be sent home
- Clean and disinfect regularly touched objects and surfaces more often than usual using your standard cleaning products
- Supervise young children to ensure they wash their hands for 20 seconds more often than usual with soap and water

In the light of the 14 day stay at home government recommendation, we are expecting that more children could be off school in the coming days.

Staff are devising home learning for each year group that will be available on our website by the end of the week. We will send a text out about this very soon, information will also be posted on our website www.denbighps.org.uk under the **LATEST NEWS TAB**.

Please can I urge parents / carers to ring school if you haven't already done so to let us know if your child is off.

On a daily basis, I am looking at the individual class and pupil's attendance and the reasons for absence, to ensure I am fully aware of individual classes and individual pupil circumstances. If you feel that the school needs to know about any wider family self-isolation taking place, please give us a call.

As I'm sure you will appreciate, we are currently dealing with a complex and rapidly changing situation. My first priority will always be the health and safety of the pupils and staff in our school. Now more than ever, this remains our primary focus.

This is an entirely unprecedented situation and we are following official advice from the government and the NHS. This advice is being added to on a daily basis and we are monitoring and responding to that as it is published. This official advice will underpin all the actions we take and I would like to reassure you that we are doing everything that we can to ensure our children, parents/carers and staff are as safe as we possibly can be in and around our site at present.

Whilst I appreciate that there will be a wide range of different views about how we should be responding and what action should be taken, I hope you will appreciate that I am duty bound to follow the official advice from government. Please do not hesitate to contact me or my team if you have any queries or concerns.

Yours Sincerely

Dr Louise Guthrie
Headteacher