

Perryfields

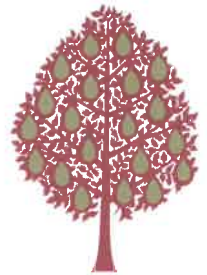
INFANT SCHOOL

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Headteacher: Mrs Amanda Reid



16th March 2020

Dear Parent/Carer

I would like to take this opportunity to update you on the school's position regarding Coronavirus.

We are following the guidance from Public Health England and the Department of Education and this means that the school will remain open until further notice. This is clearly an unprecedented situation and our priority is to reduce our exposure to potential infection in order to protect our entire community and to ensure that we can stay open for teaching and learning. Additional cleaning programmes are in place, additional access to hand hygiene upon school entry, exit and around the building are in place and hand washing demonstrations and practice are discussed in class assemblies and the classroom.

For the latest guidance relating to COVID-19 (Coronavirus) please go to:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-stay-at-home-guidance/stay-at-home-guidance-for-people-with-confirmed-or-possible-coronavirus-covid-19-infection#self-isolation>

The Department for Health and Social Care has asked anyone who shows certain symptoms to stay at home for 7 days, regardless of whether or not they have travelled to affected areas. This means people should stay at home and avoid all but essential contact with others for 7 days from the point of displaying mild symptoms, to slow the spread of infection.

The symptoms are:

- A high temperature (37.8 degrees and above)
- A new, continuous cough

Please contact the school to let us know if your child is self-isolating as a result of the guidance above. Please also contact us as a matter of urgency to let us know if a child or family member is diagnosed with Coronavirus.

I am mindful that we have some pupils and staff who have underlying health conditions that could potentially make them more vulnerable than others should they become infected. I am therefore asking for parental support to help us to reduce, wherever possible, the amount of time parents or family members/relatives visit the school.

In order to reduce the potential spread of infection we are taking the following action from **Monday 16th March 2020 until 3rd April 2020:**

- All sporting fixtures (home and away) will be cancelled, including the Gym competition.
- All trips and visits where children mix with a large amount of children from other schools or the public will be cancelled. Our Year 2 Diamond Class trip to Chelmsford library has also been cancelled.
- The Fips Easter Disco will now be cancelled.
- All evening school lettings will be temporarily cancelled.



- Both Parent Consultation evenings will be cancelled (report cards to come home instead)
Please see separate letter for further information.
- Events such as class assemblies where family members would normally visit the school to watch will be postponed to a later date.
- We will send children home for seven days if they are showing symptoms

All school based clubs and activities (before school, lunchtime and after school) will run as normal. This also includes football, gym, multi-sports, tennis, golf and dance club sessions.

I would also ask that any parent who requires to speak with a member of staff does so over the telephone or via email and would ask that parents/carers only come into school if it is absolutely essential. Parent helpers are still welcome if symptom free. We also ask if you could refrain from bringing forgotten items into reception during the day. Please remember to send all items required for school and clubs in with your child at the beginning of the day. I appreciate that these measures may cause some disappointment or inconvenience but to be able to keep the core business of our school operational we need to try to reduce the risk of infection as much as possible to our staff and pupils.

The current guidance about the Year 2 SATS Tests (May), and the Year 1 Phonics Checks (June) suggest that these will continue to go ahead. Should this change we will, of course, contact parents.

Our school has contingency plans should the government take the decision to close our school. More information will be provided should this event arise but would ask now that you take the following steps to ensure that, should this decision be taken, your child and you are able to access the following:

- Ensure that your child knows their log in for DBPrimary
<https://secure.dbprimary.com/service/util/login>
- Ensure that your child can access Purple Mash from home
<https://www.purplemash.com/sch/perryfields-infant>
- Ensure parents can access the school's website for further information
- Ensure parents can receive school emails for ongoing communication
- Helpful website to access free learning resources www.twinkl.co.uk/offer
Enter the code UKTWINKLHELPS

We will be going through these with children in the coming days to check they can remember their log-ins. Homework packs will shortly be sent home in case of school closure.

The guidance to schools may change in the coming days and weeks and we will continue to communicate this with parents should this happen. Please note that we will communicate any update or changes to our operations to you using the usual methods:

- Email
- Website
- Via our Twitter page

Once again, thank you for your continued support during these unprecedented times.

Yours sincerely



Amanda Reid
Headteacher