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Dear Parents/Carers

As we are all aware, Coronavirus is now becoming more prevalent in the UK with increasing numbers of cases confirmed. I am taking this opportunity to inform all of our stakeholders on the actions that we have taken so far to prevent and protect our children. The purpose of this correspondence is not to cause any alarm, my main priority is to keeping you informed.

The guidance that the school has received is updated daily and as a result, the school has taken decisive action as detailed below:

- Displayed the recommended posters to raise awareness to anyone visiting or within the school about the importance of good hygiene.
- Assembly to teach the children about good hand washing and how microorganisms spread in the most unlikely of places.
- Implemented a deep clean, giving special attention to places where children may touch regularly.
- Staff are vigilant of children at key times – before break/lunch, after the toilet and are encouraging good hygiene.
- Stop serving bagels.

As part of our ongoing checks, we would appreciate parent support and ask that if you are aware of any family members/ people you have been in contact with, who have travelled to or from the affected areas, to let the school know as soon as possible and we can advise on the necessary actions. Furthermore, we need to follow CURRENT GOVERNMENT ADVICE TO STAY HOME AND SELF-ISOLATE IF YOUR CHILD HAS:

- A HIGH TEMPERATURE OF 37.8 OR MORE
- A NEW, CONTINUOUS COUGH.

With the Easter holidays fast approaching, please let us know if you are making any plans that may increase your risk of contracting COVID 19 by contacting the school via email on [admin@forestpark.org.uk](mailto:admin@forestpark.org.uk) .

The government have provided educational settings with a daily update and as of yet their strategy has not changed when making the decision to close schools even though the country has moved into the 'delay'



stage. Therefore, the current advice is that no school or educational setting should close or restrict pupils unless advised to do so by Public Health England. I have attached the current helpline details for anyone who has questions about the current situation.

The Department for Education has launched a new helpline to answer questions about COVID-19 related to education. Staff, parents and young people can contact the helpline as follows:

Phone: 0800 046 8687

Email: [DfE.Coronavirushelpline@education.gov.uk](mailto:DfE.Coronavirushelpline@education.gov.uk)

Opening hours: 8am to 6pm (Monday to Friday)

If you suspect or are worried that you or your child are suffering from the symptoms of COVID-19, the advice is to call 111 immediately and please update the school.

If you have recently travelled abroad to one of the affected areas, and are demonstrating any of the COVID-19 symptoms, we ask that you **DO NOT** come onto the school site for at least 7 days.

We are working with the current guidance and updates to revisit our own crisis action plan. This details how we aim to maintain and deliver educational lessons to our children, should the school close. Please be prepared that this **may** happen and we will work with our parents and carers to our best ability if it does. Due to the uncertainty of the situation at the moment, I will update you of any changes as soon as I am aware of them.

From today we are introducing a number of measures to mitigate against the spread of any infectious illnesses that we might encounter. These include:

- On entering school, all staff members and visitors will be asked to thoroughly cleanse their hands using the gel provided. Children and staff will wash their hands regularly throughout the day.
- I-pads will not be shared around the school: a small number will remain within each class for quizzing purposes, but after each use, they will be cleaned with antibacterial wipes.
- The computers in the computer suite will not be in use in the immediate future.
- We have asked children to bring into school a named reusable water bottle so your child can remain rehydrated throughout each day. This will be returned home each day, and must come back into school every day containing fresh water.
- Assemblies will be postponed.
- All **extra curricular clubs** are cancelled.
- All **parent workshops in early years** are cancelled.
- All **family learning sessions** are cancelled.
- **Early years mother's day concert** on Thursday 19.03.2020 is cancelled.



- **Recorder Festival and KS2 Choir Concert** on Thursday 26.03.2020 are cancelled.
- **Year 6 SATs information meeting** on Wednesday 01.04.2020 is cancelled.
- **Year 4 Easter Concert** on Thursday 02.04.2020 is cancelled.
- All **School trips and visitors** linking to the curriculum will be cancelled.
- In the **Early Years**, we are moderating the types of activities that are available for our younger children.

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the school for advice and support. Please note that this letter is as current as the advice we are given, and subject to future changes.

Yours sincerely



Miss S L Irving  
Headteacher

