

# ASKAM VILLAGE SCHOOL

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Headteacher: Mrs Fiona Newton. Chair of Governors: Dr John Thompson



16<sup>th</sup> March 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

I thought it was important for school to keep communicating with regard to development of the Corona Virus situation.

As I have previously explained I receive daily updates with advice from the Government and I will always amend our practice here at school to comply with the advice in an attempt to keep everyone safe. We also have 24-hour access to support and advice from Kym Allan.

Following the daily Government update to schools on Friday, I have updated our Pandemic Policy and as a result, I am sharing the following information with all parents. I have also included some changes to the school day.

## **Advice for Symptoms**

- Staff or children who live in the same household as someone with a confirmed case should self-isolate for 14 days
- Staff or children with minor symptoms (a new persistent cough or high temperature) should stay at home for a minimum of 7 days and contact NHS 111 via telephone or their online system only if symptoms worsen
- Staff or children showing any signs of infection at school should be isolated from other staff and pupils and sent home as soon as possible and the school will contact Public Health England by telephone. The individual should contact NHS 111 for further guidance

## **Routines in school**

- Children in Reception and Year 1 will be brought to the entrance at the end of school (the entrance you usually use) rather than parents/carers coming inside to collect and children should be dropped off at the door in the mornings please. We will have additional staff in the entrance area to support with this. Please bear with us as this may take a little longer as we get used to the routine. This is to minimise the footfall in school which we have been recommended to do.
- Staff and pupil hand washing: on arrival at school, after each toilet visit, after each break time and before lunch
- From Monday 16th March 2020 we will not be holding whole school assemblies
- All children should bring their own water bottles to school as we are discouraging use of the water fountains

To comply with our Pandemic Policy which states: 'Consider restricting visitors to essential visits' it may be necessary to cancel or postpone events which to date has been the school visit to watch 'Shrek'. I understand that children and parents may be disappointed; however, policies are in place to ensure the safety and wellbeing of our school community.



I will be reviewing the situation daily and will always keep you as parents up to date with any changes to school routines.

If it were that school had to close, we would be issuing learning which can be completed at home. Please can I ask parents reply to the text message if your child would be unable to access learning online which will aid our planning of work.

In the event of a closure I would be issuing clear guidance to staff and parents about the expectations of learning at home.

- For advice on school management issues contact the DfE Education Helpline, Tel: 0800 046 8687 or Email: [DfE.coronavisurhelpline@education.gov.uk](mailto:DfE.coronavisurhelpline@education.gov.uk). This helpline is available to staff and parents to contact 8am – 6pm Monday to Friday.
- Another reliable sources of information: [www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/](http://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/)

### **Actions for Parents**

- Ensure your child has their own water bottle in school with them
- Ensure you follow the 'symptom advice'
- Ensure you reply to the text message about online learning
- Drop off and collect your child from the door rather than coming in to school to minimise the footfall in school

I would like to thank you in advance for your patience at this uncertain time.

Best Wishes,



Mrs. Fiona Newton  
Headteacher

